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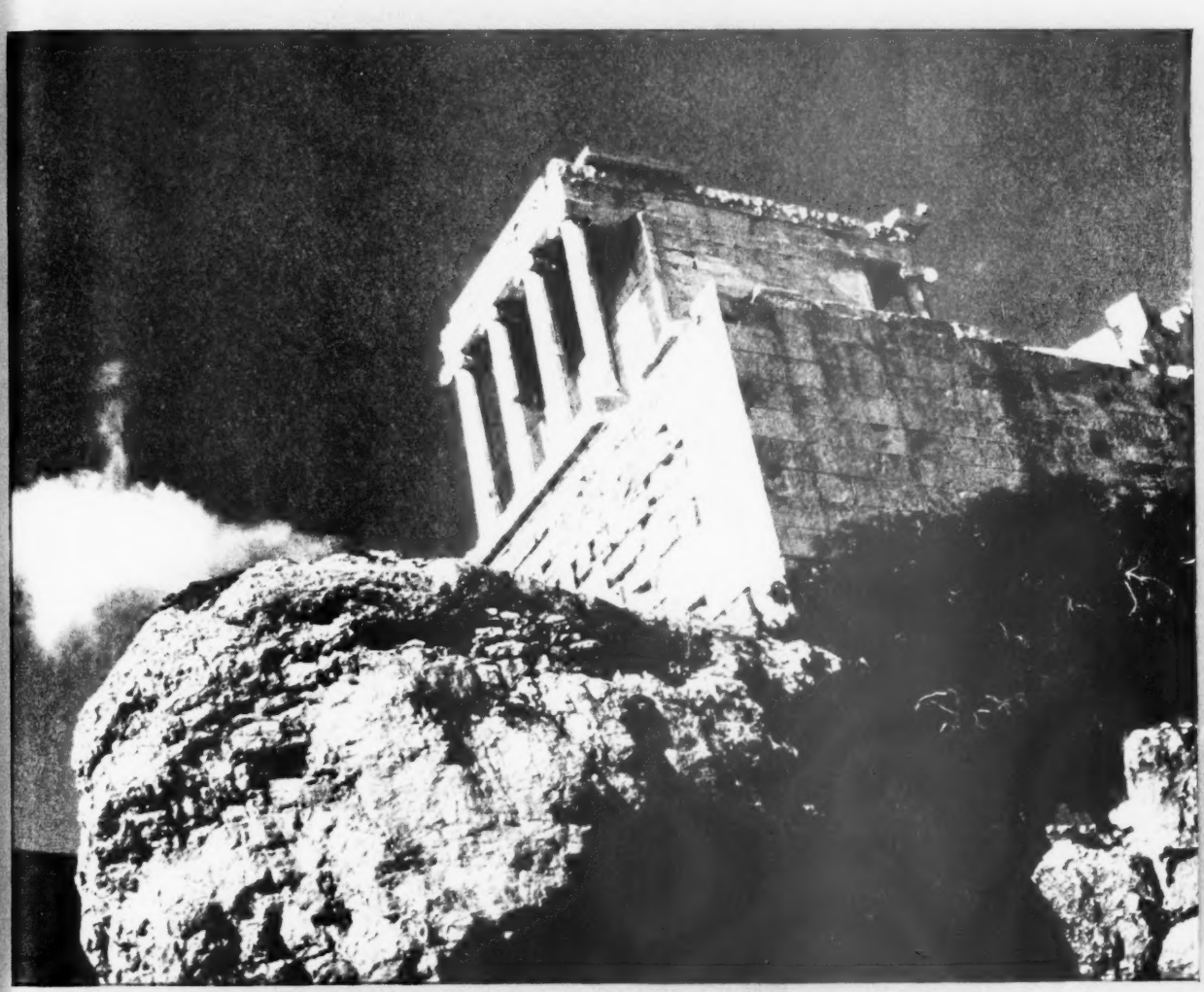

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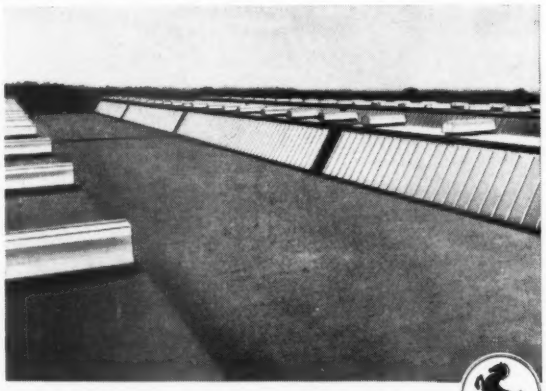

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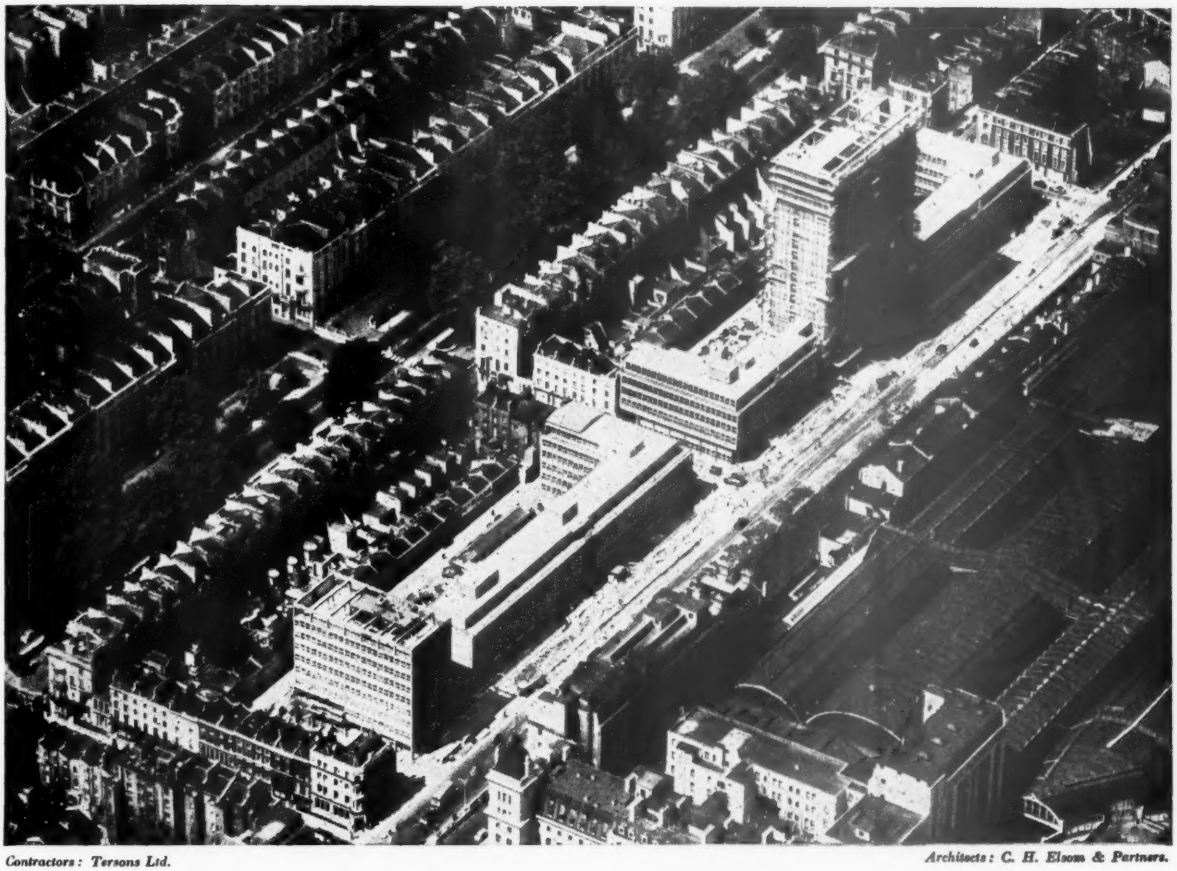

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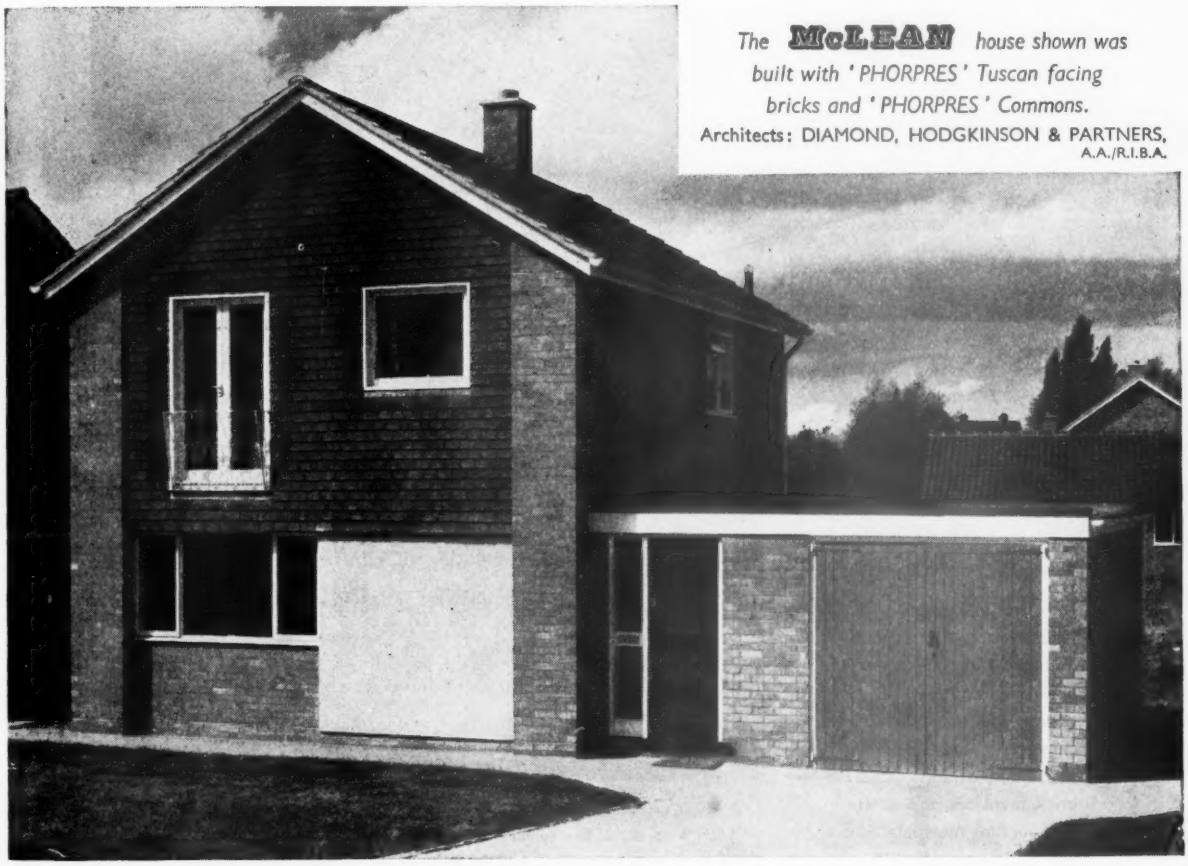

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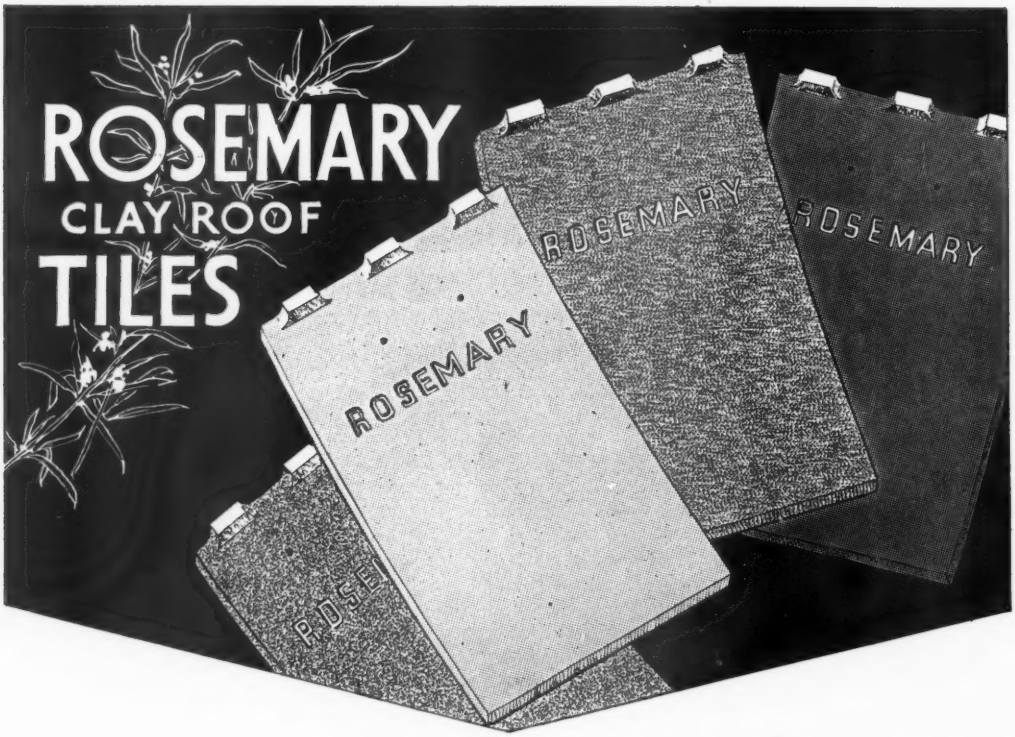

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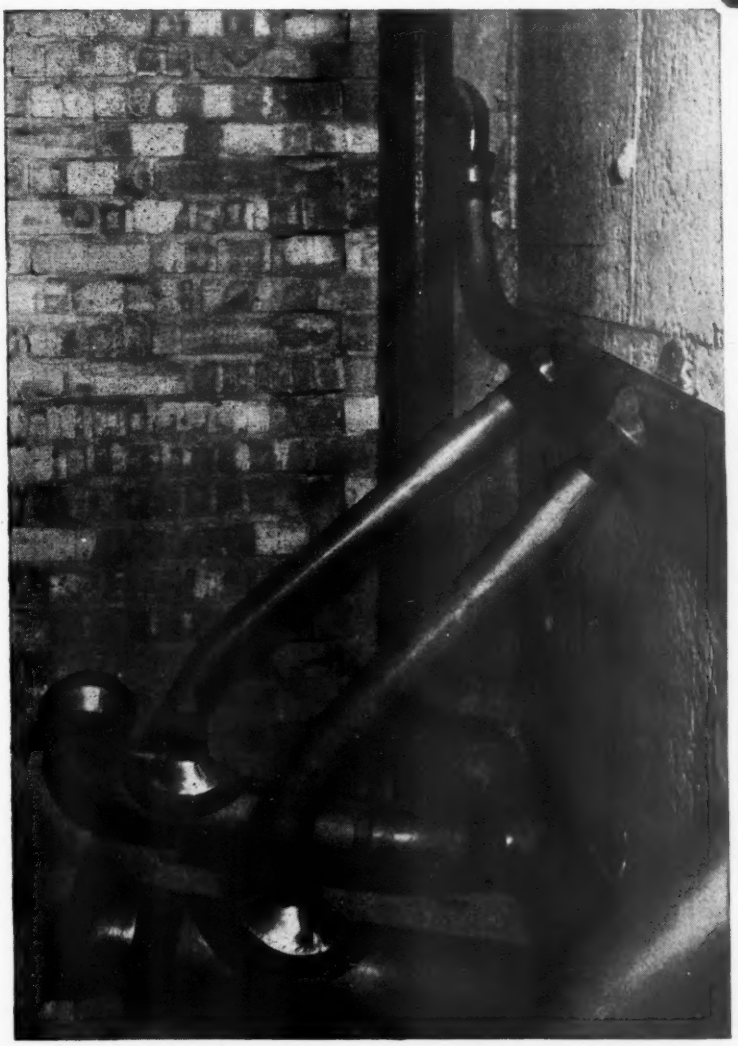

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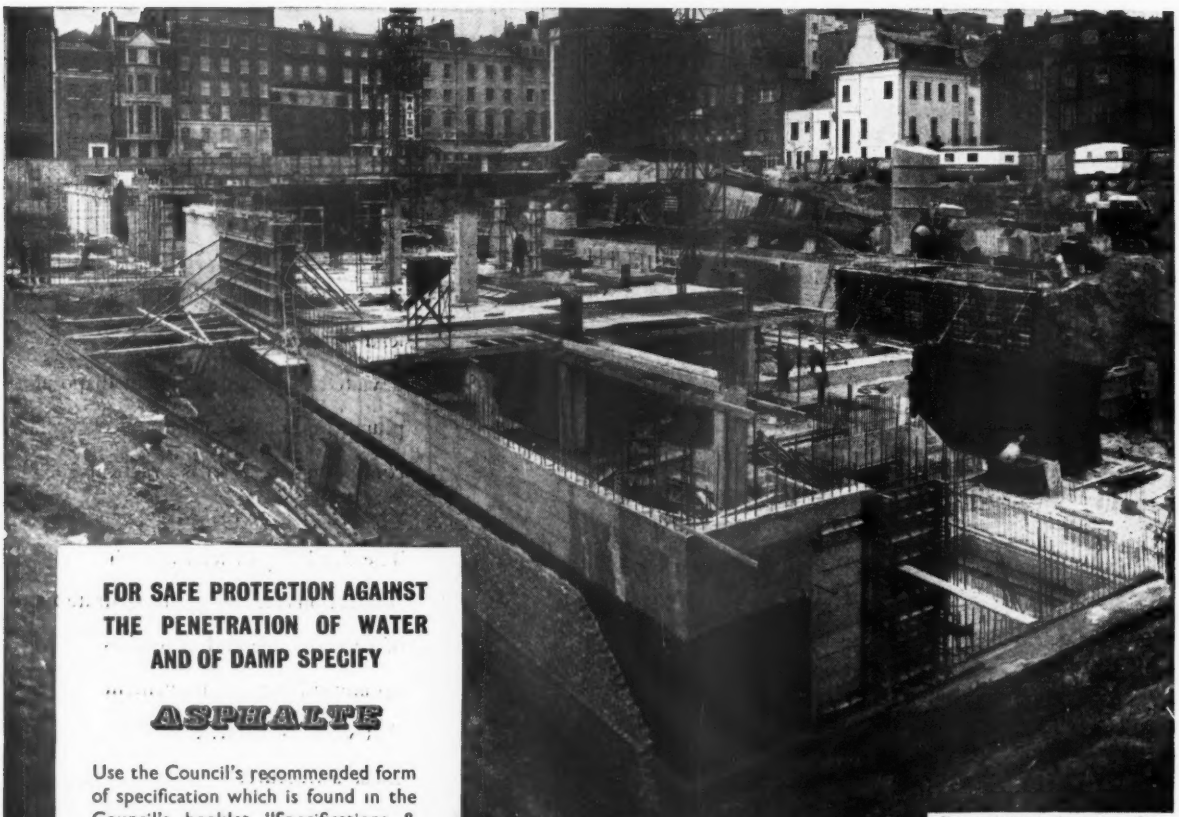

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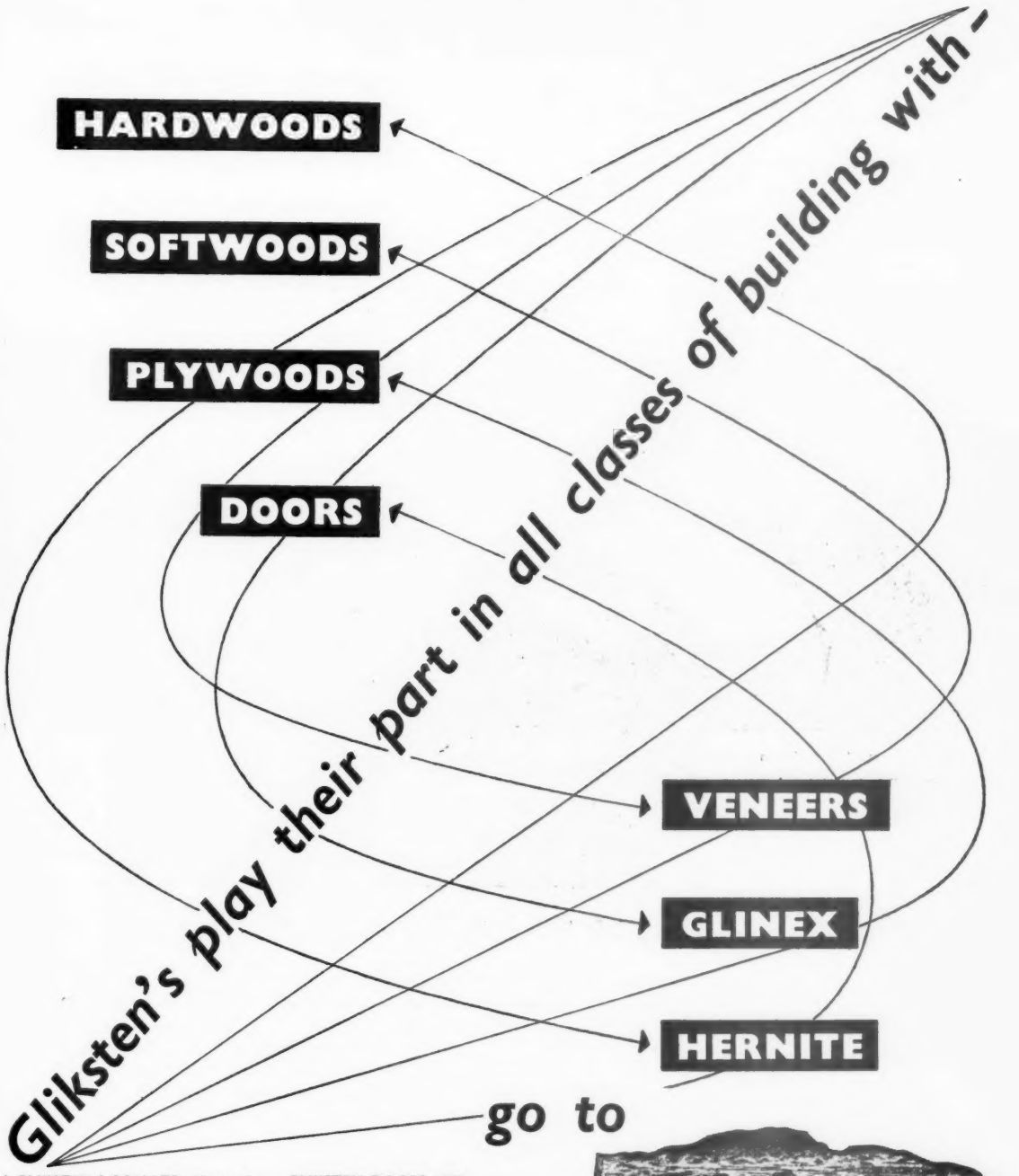

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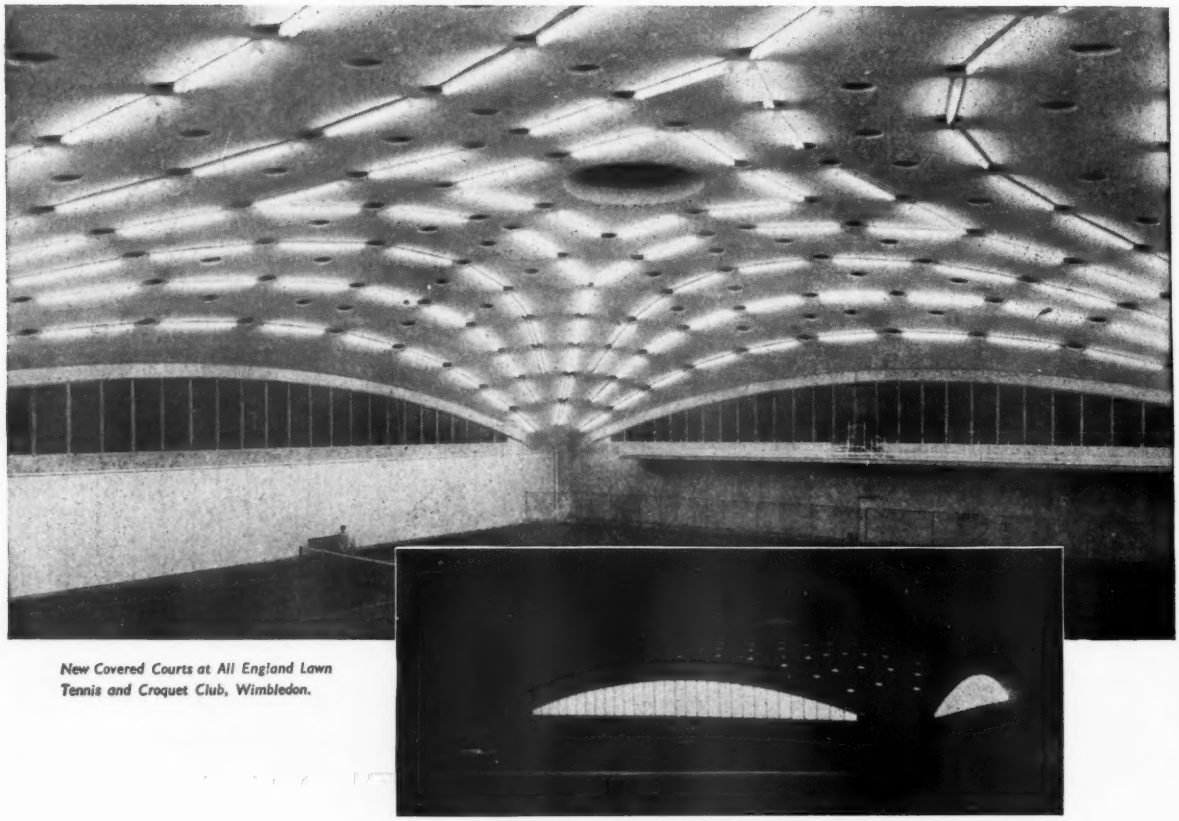

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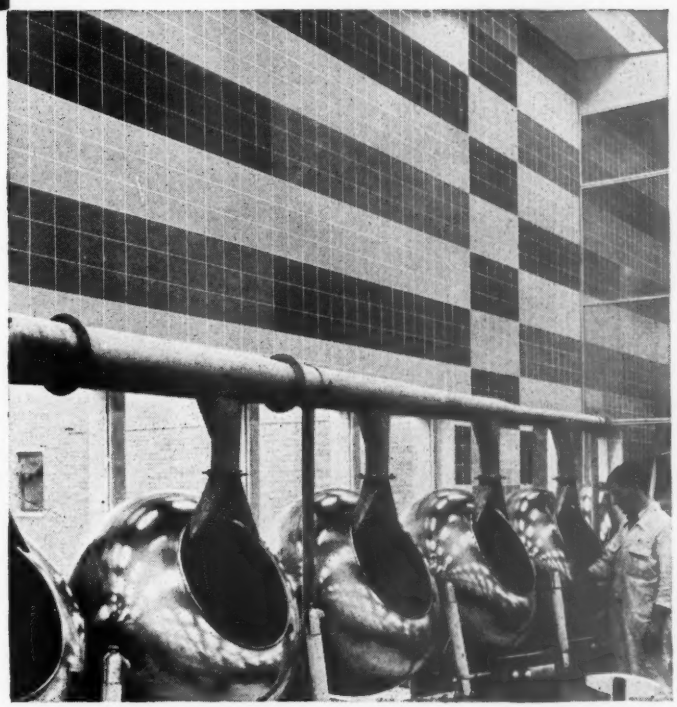

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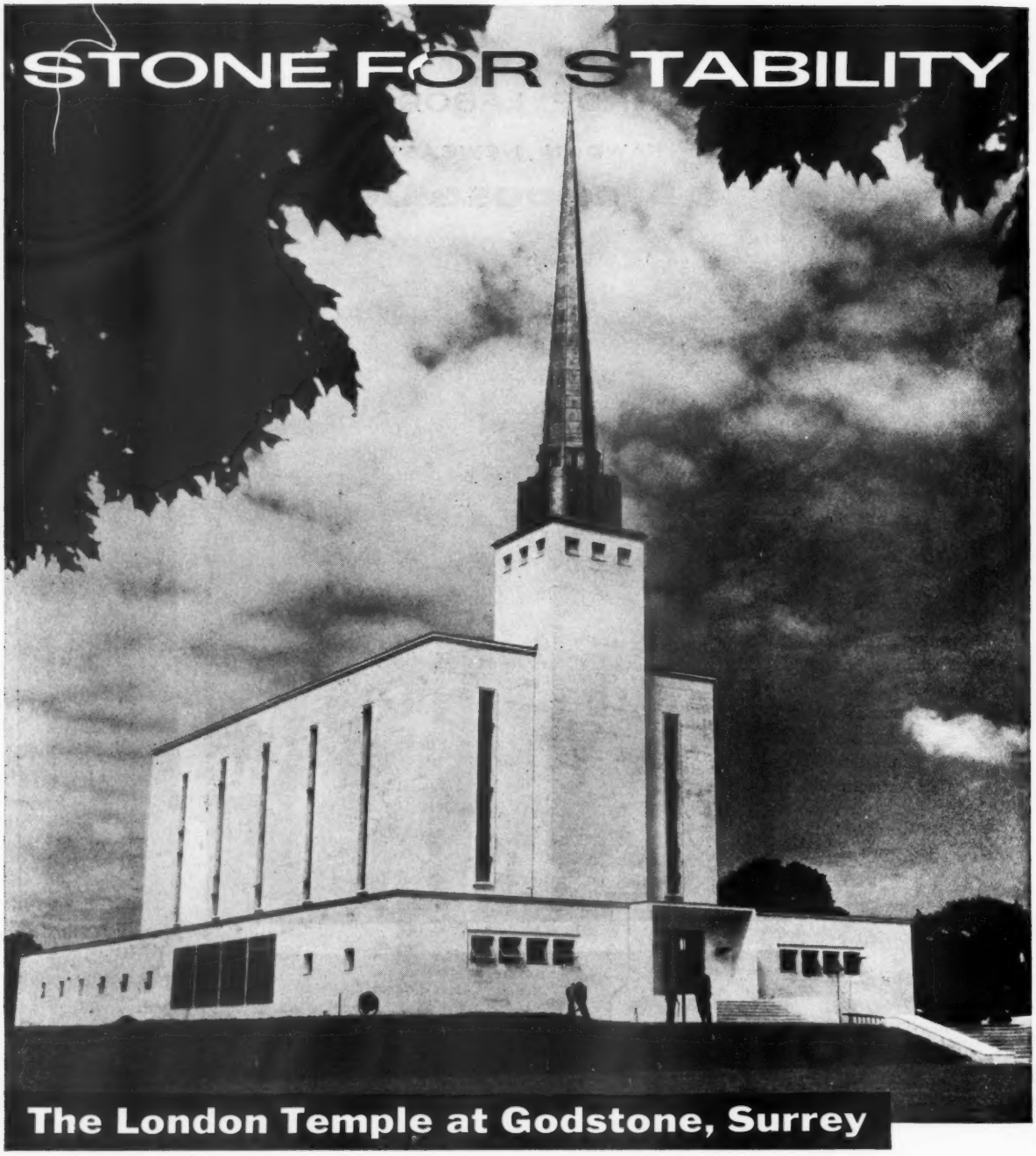

Architect: Edward O. Anderson, A.I.A., 47 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.
Supervising Architects: T. P. Bennett & Sons, 43 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1.
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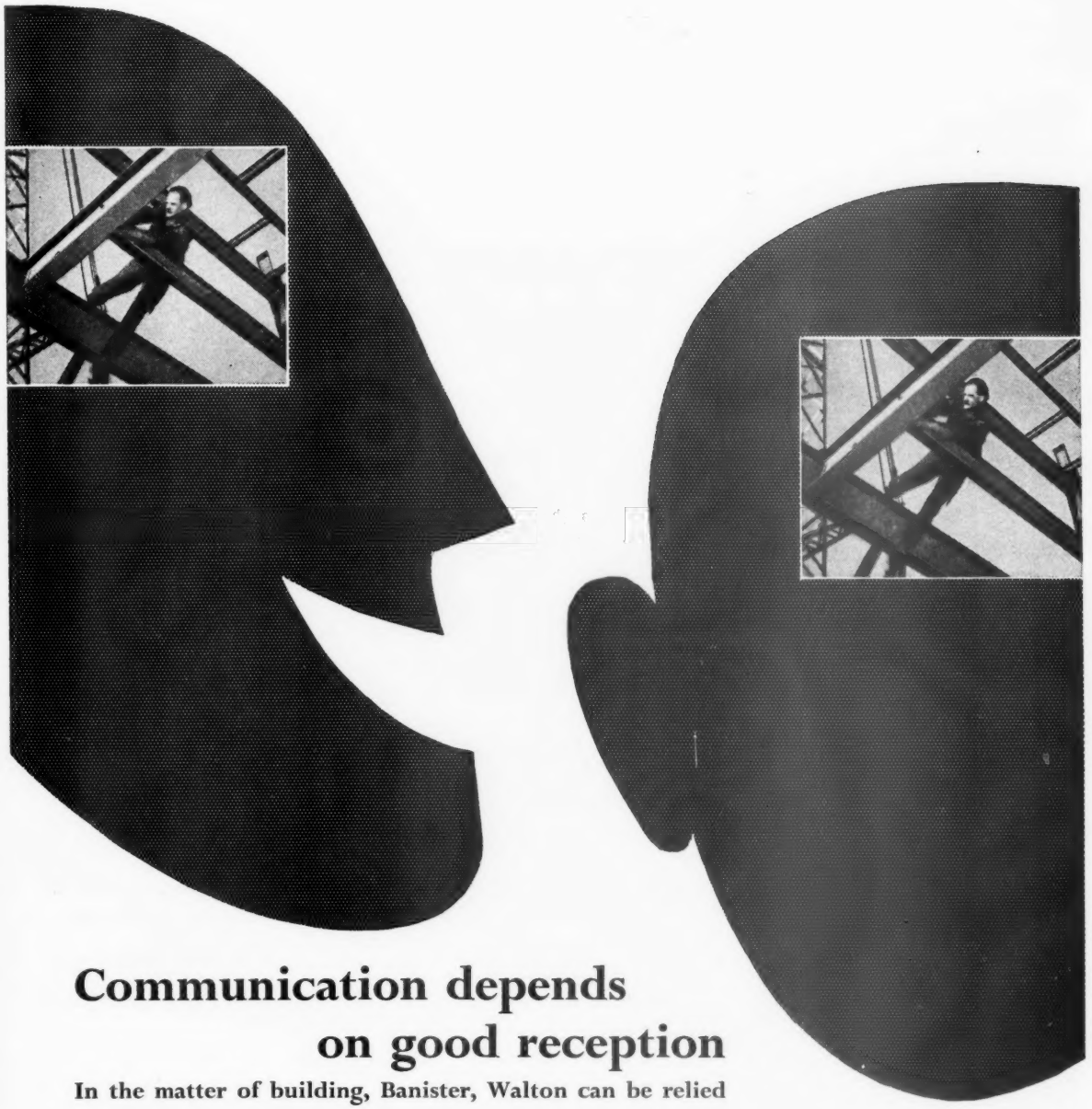

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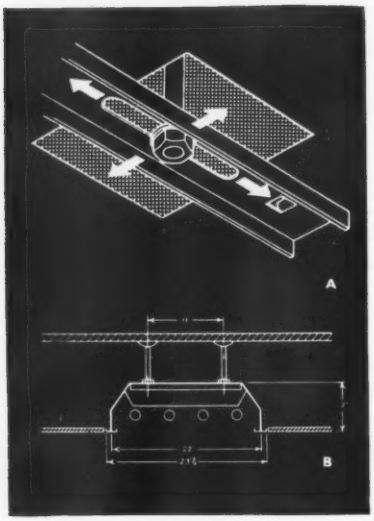

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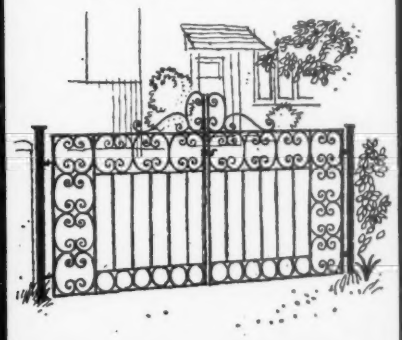
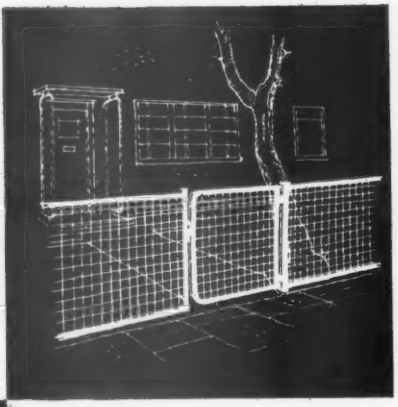
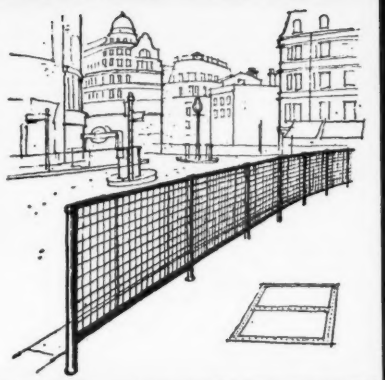

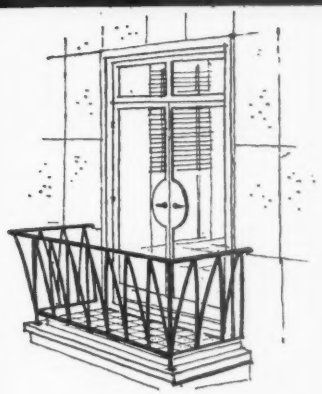

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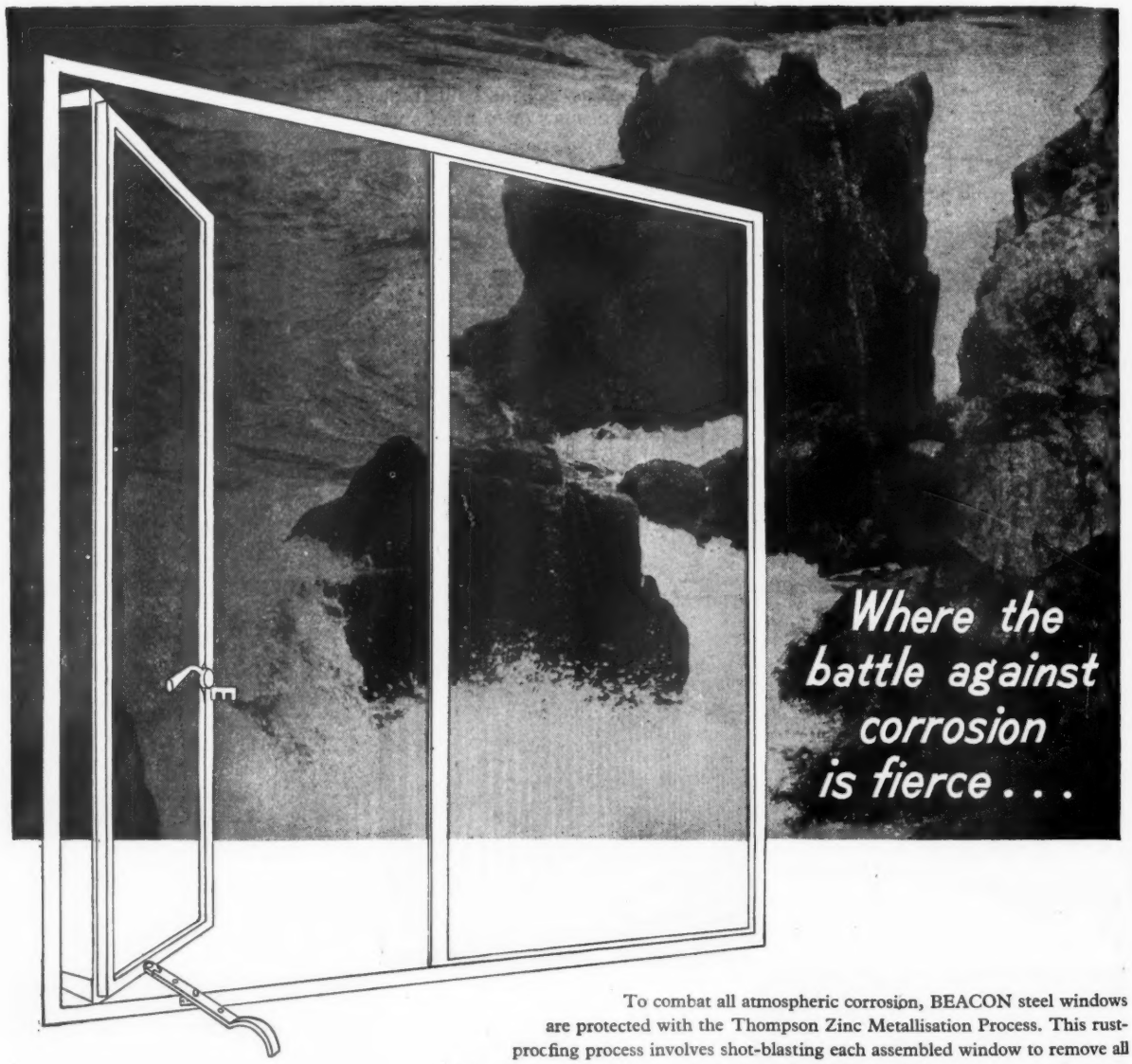

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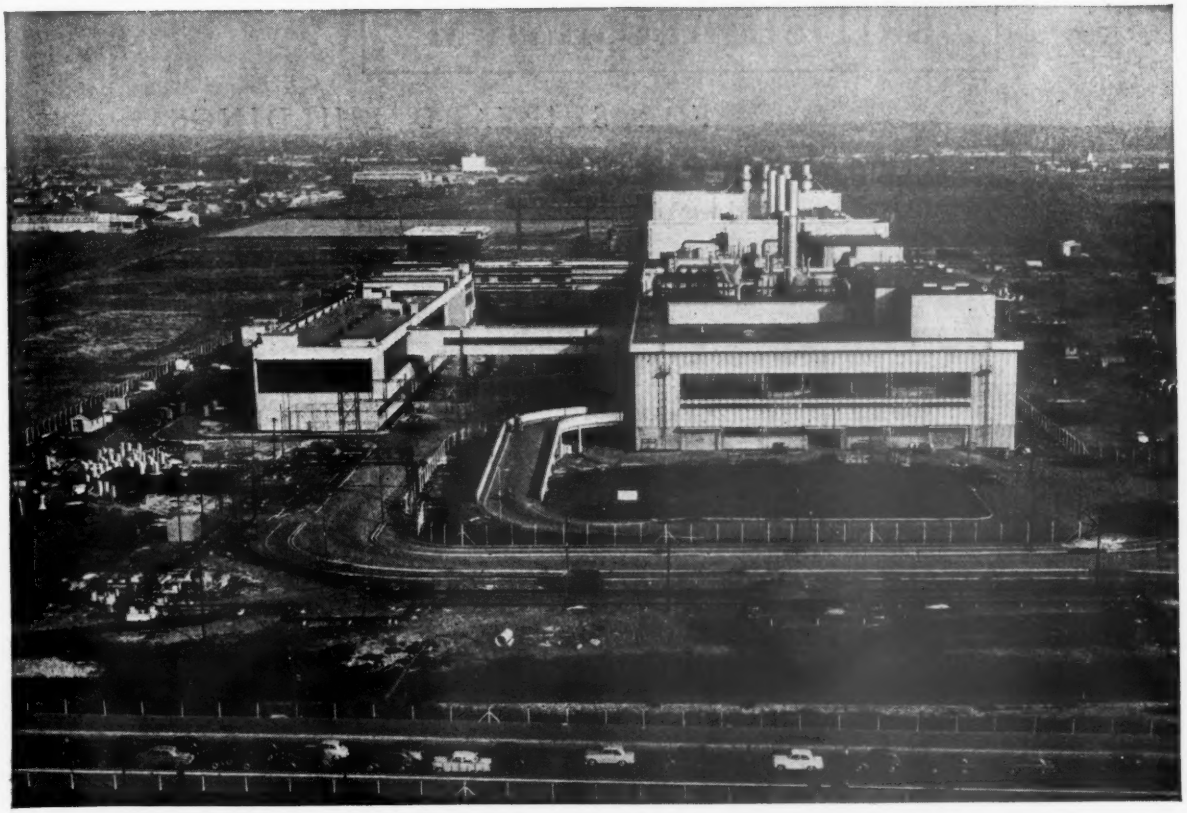

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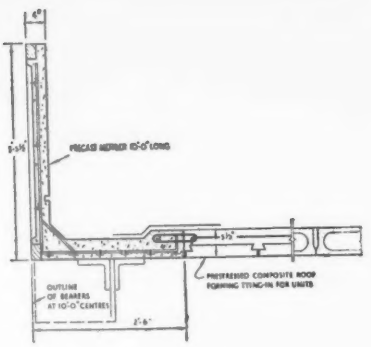

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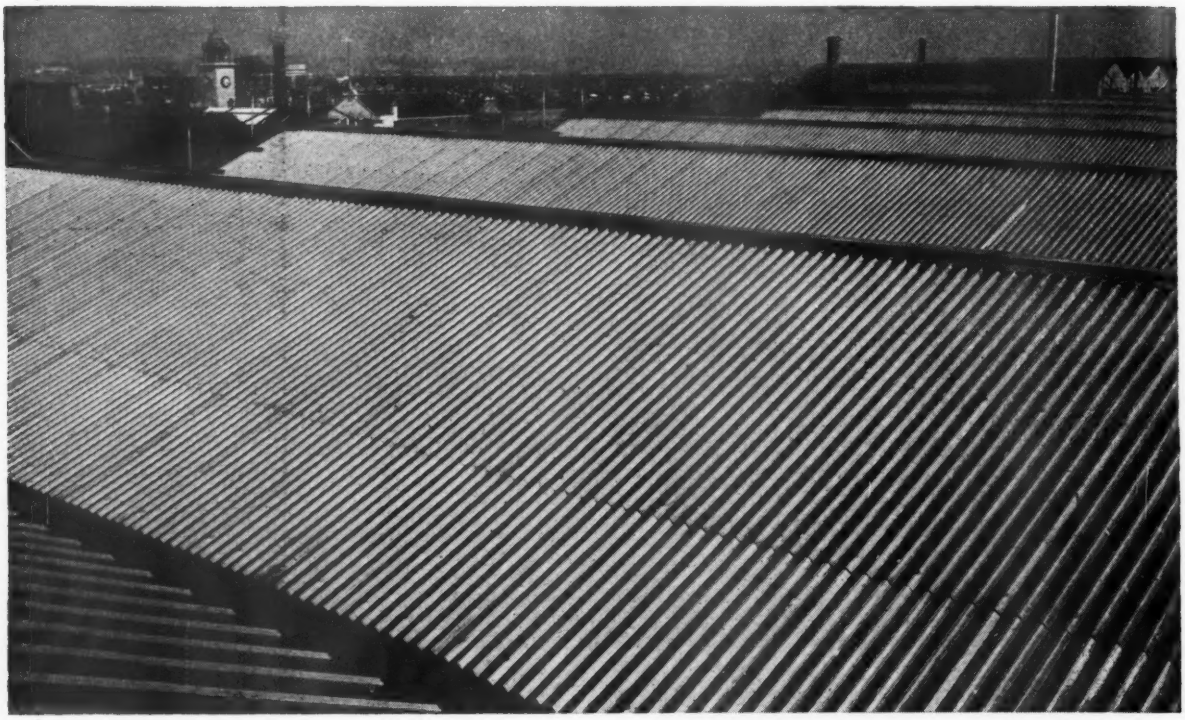

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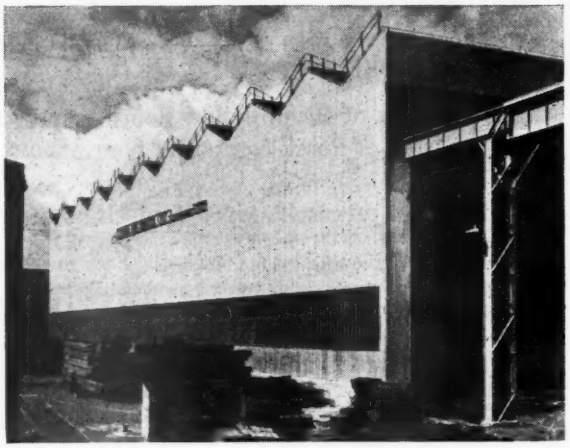

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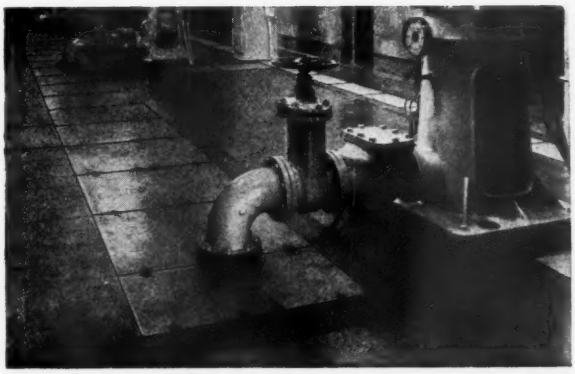

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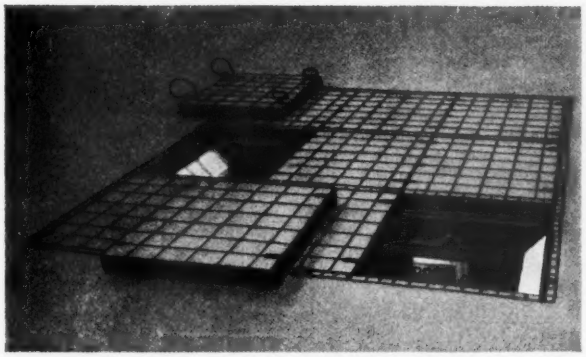

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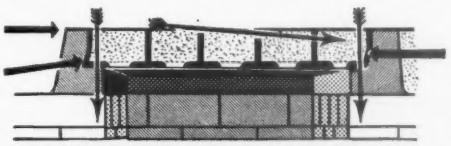

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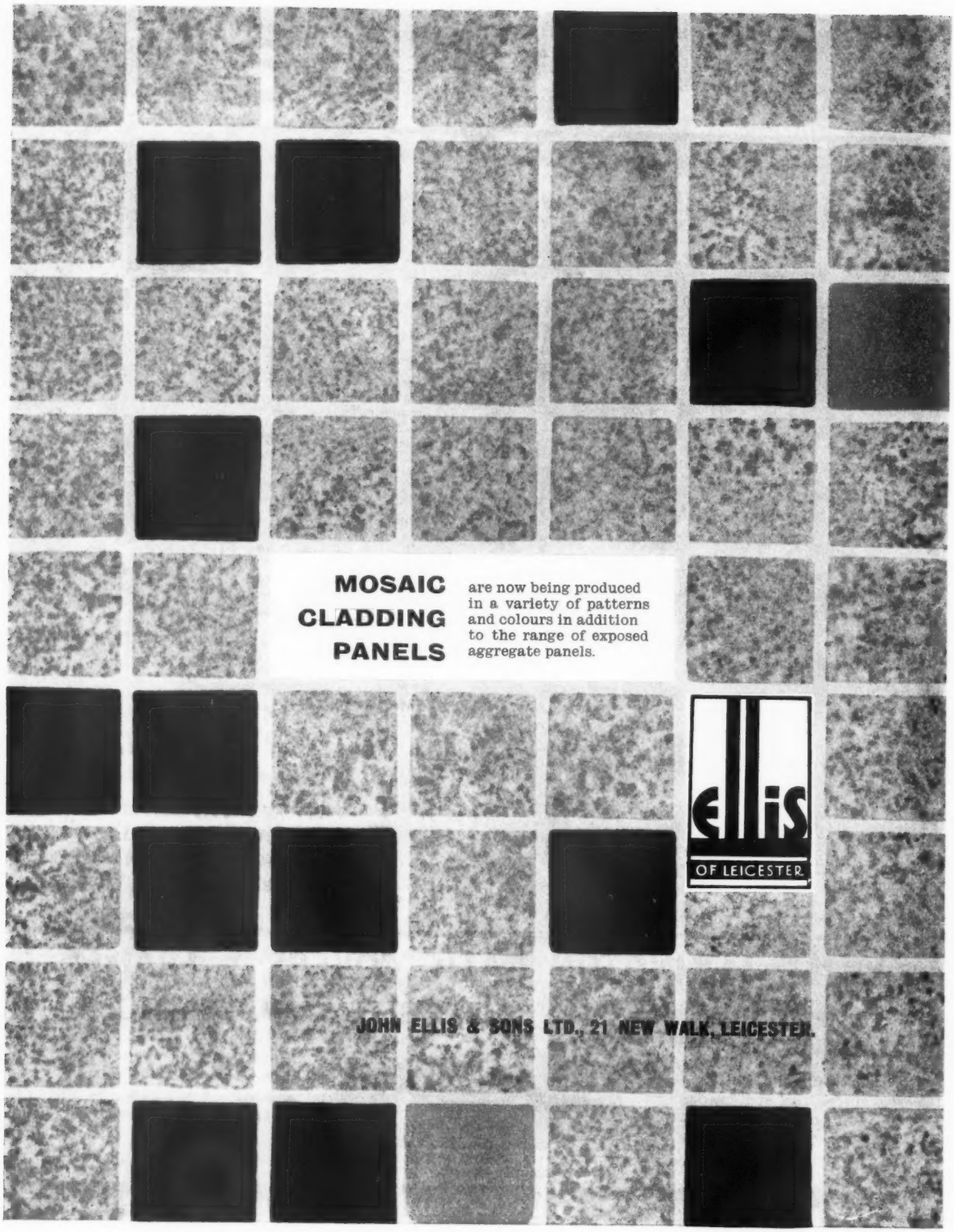
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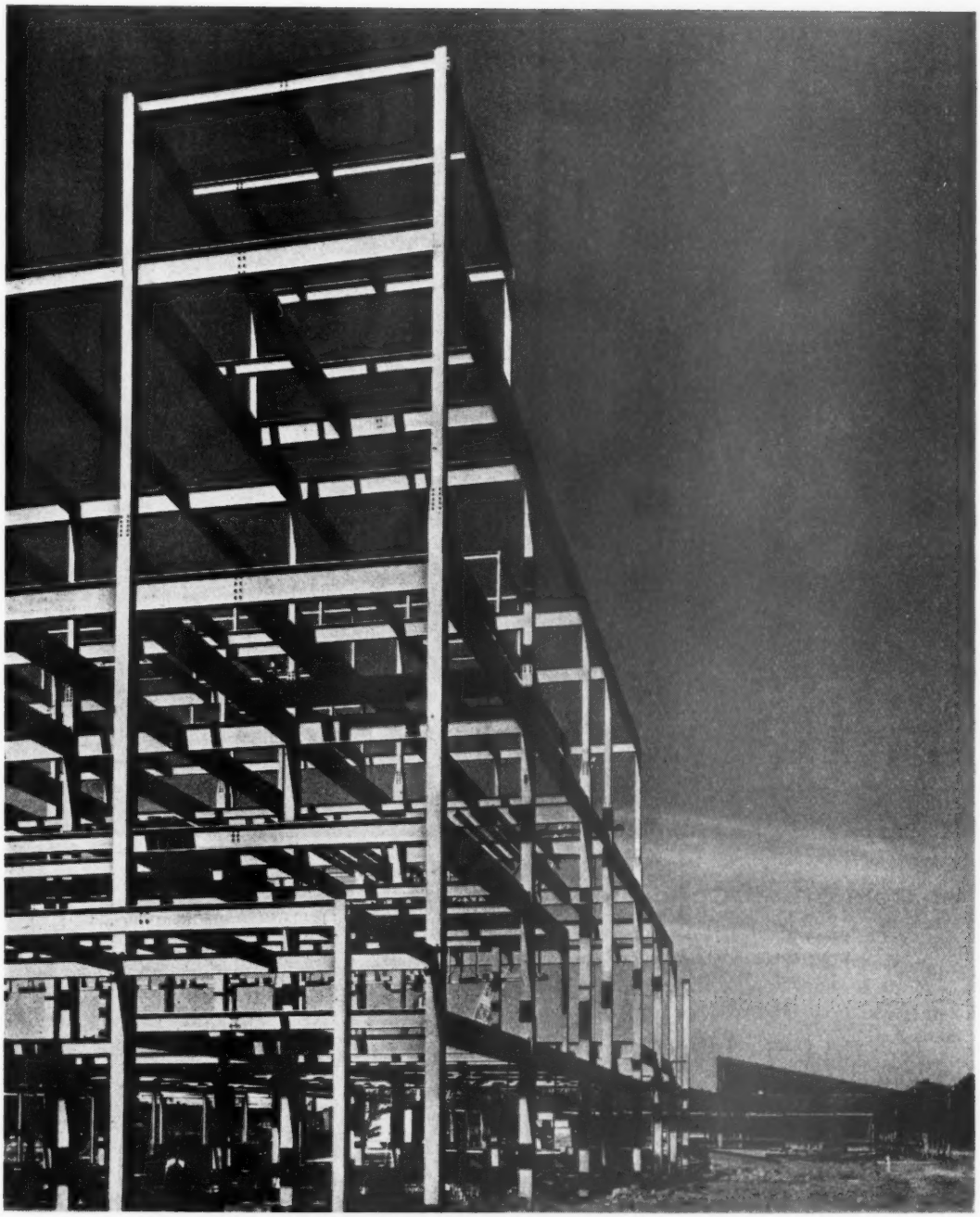

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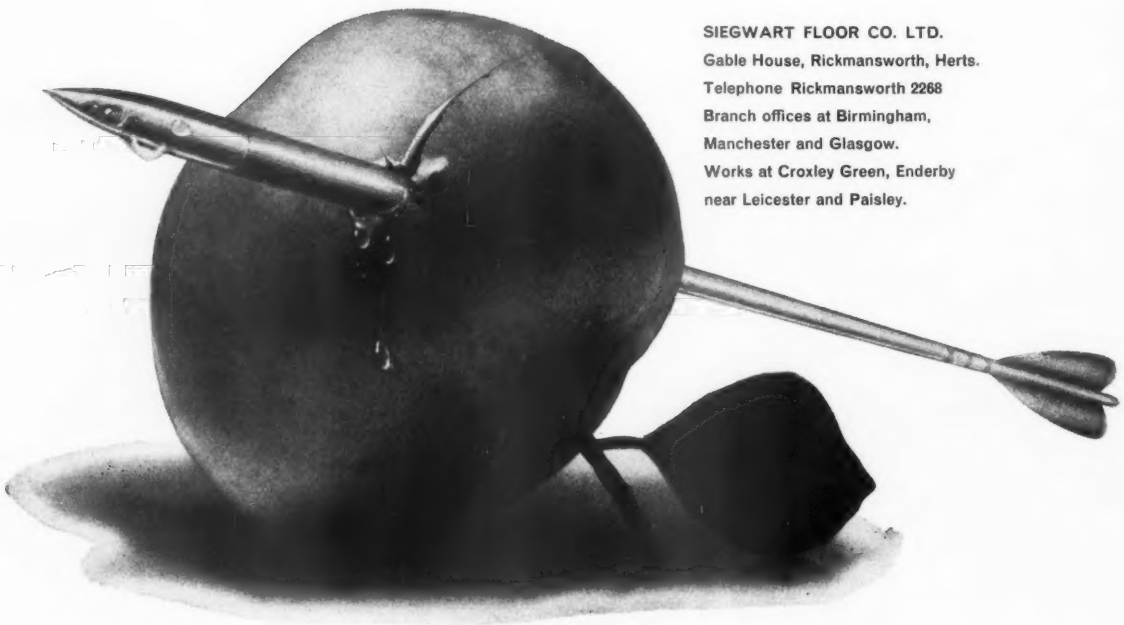

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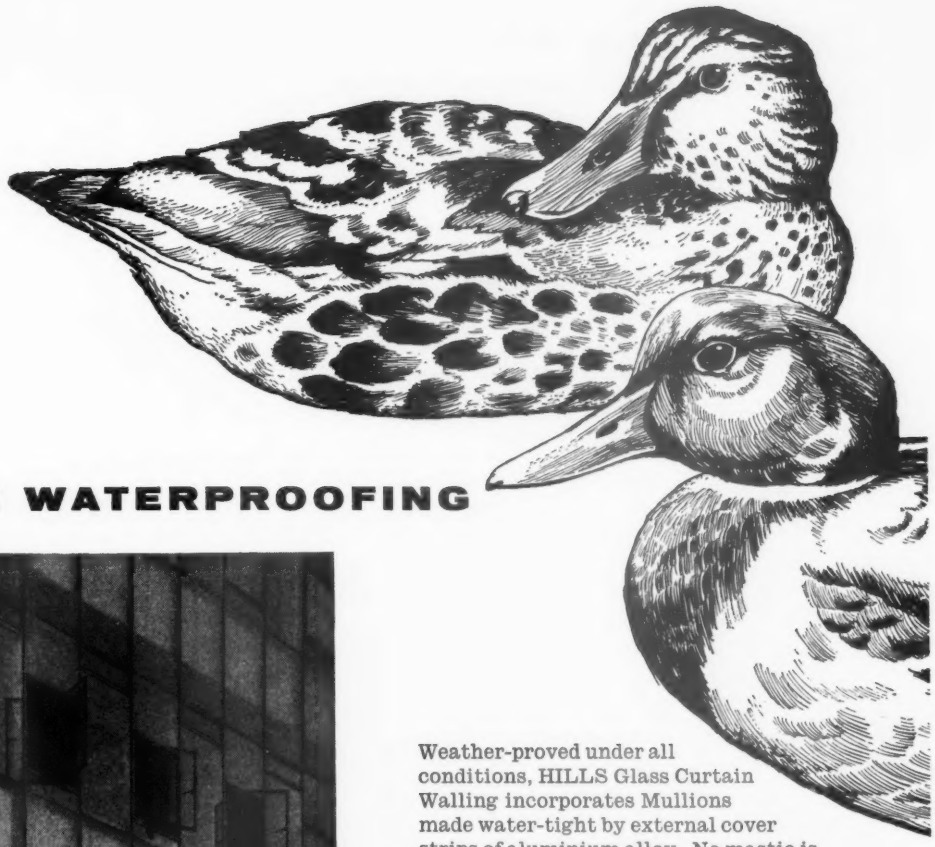

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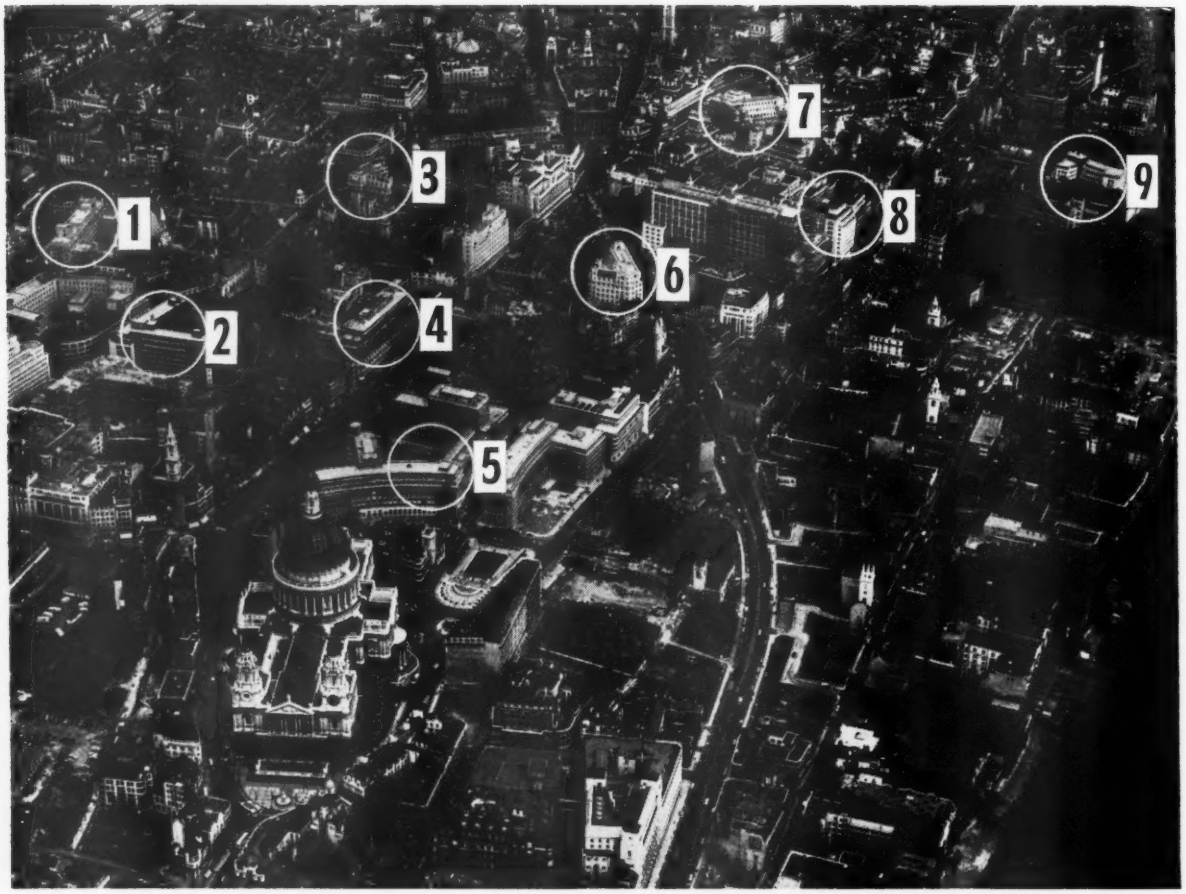

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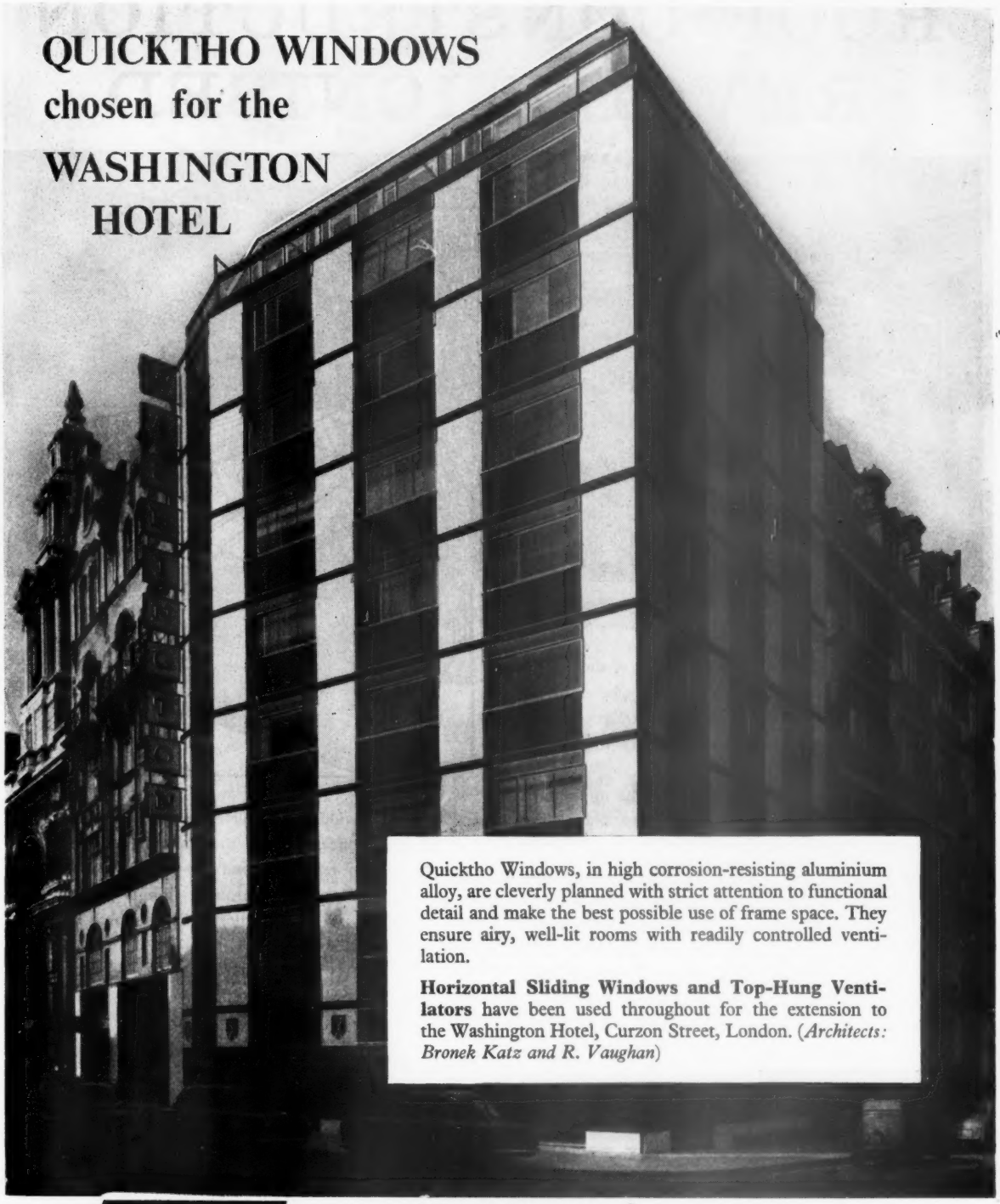

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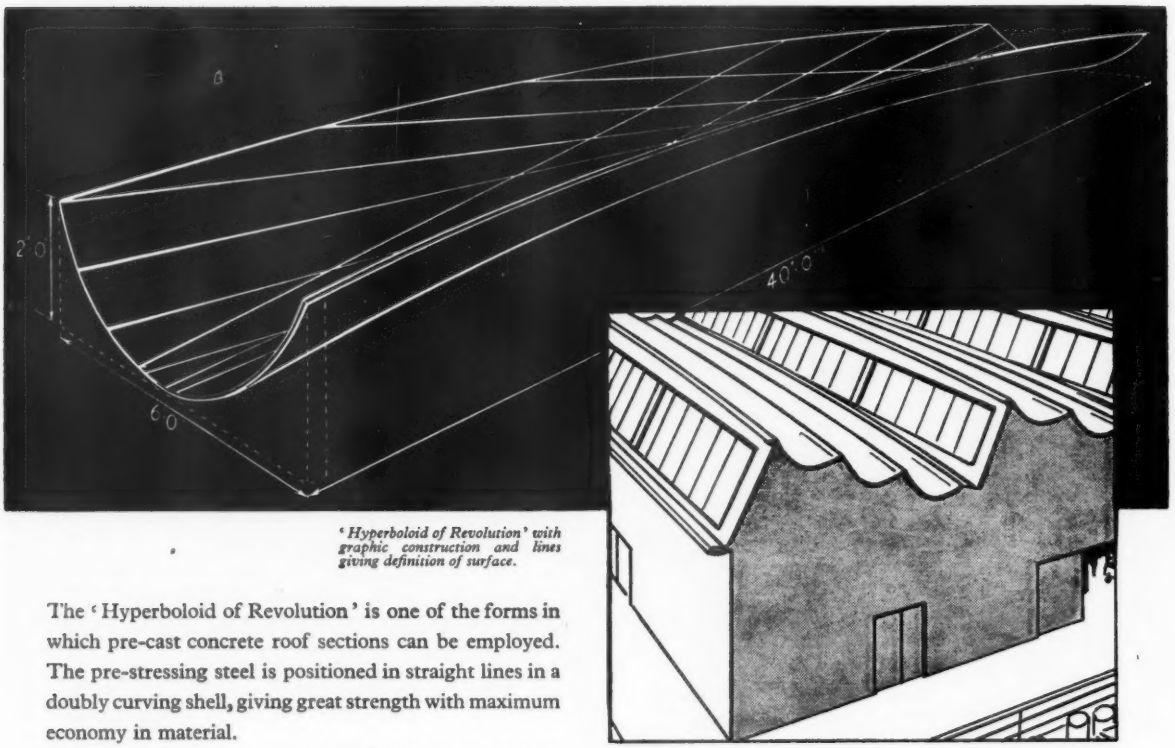

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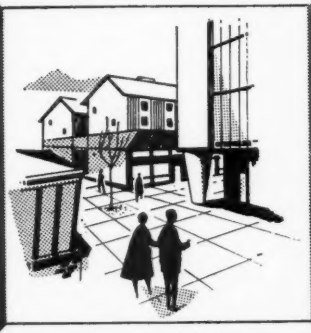

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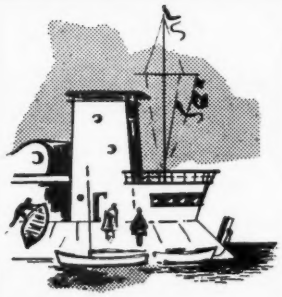

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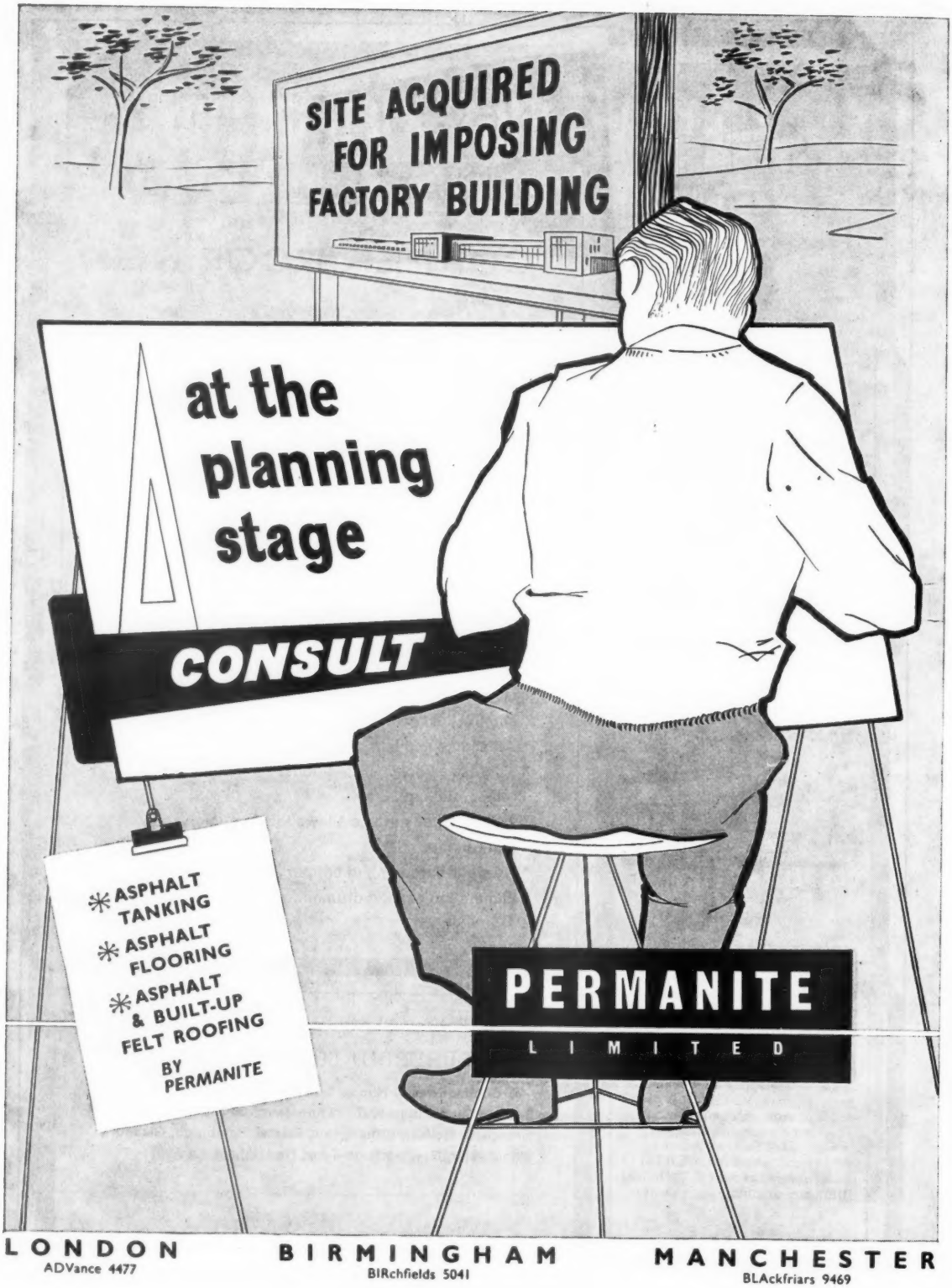
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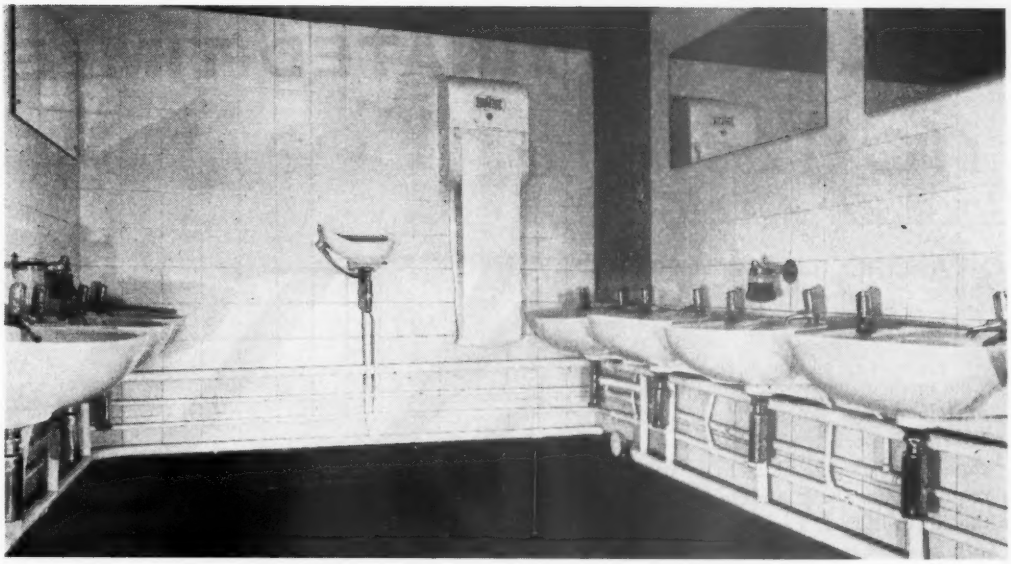

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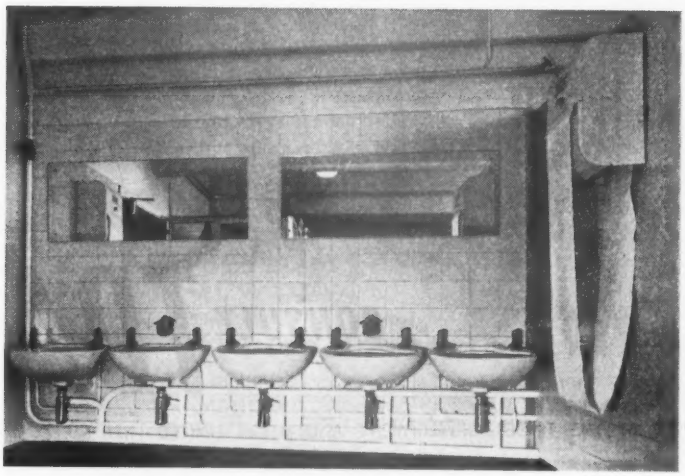

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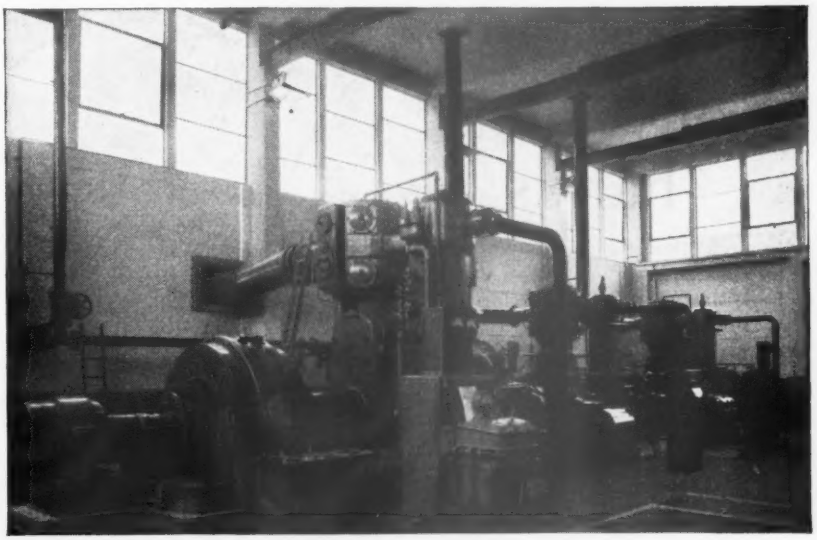

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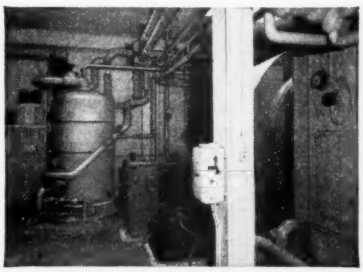

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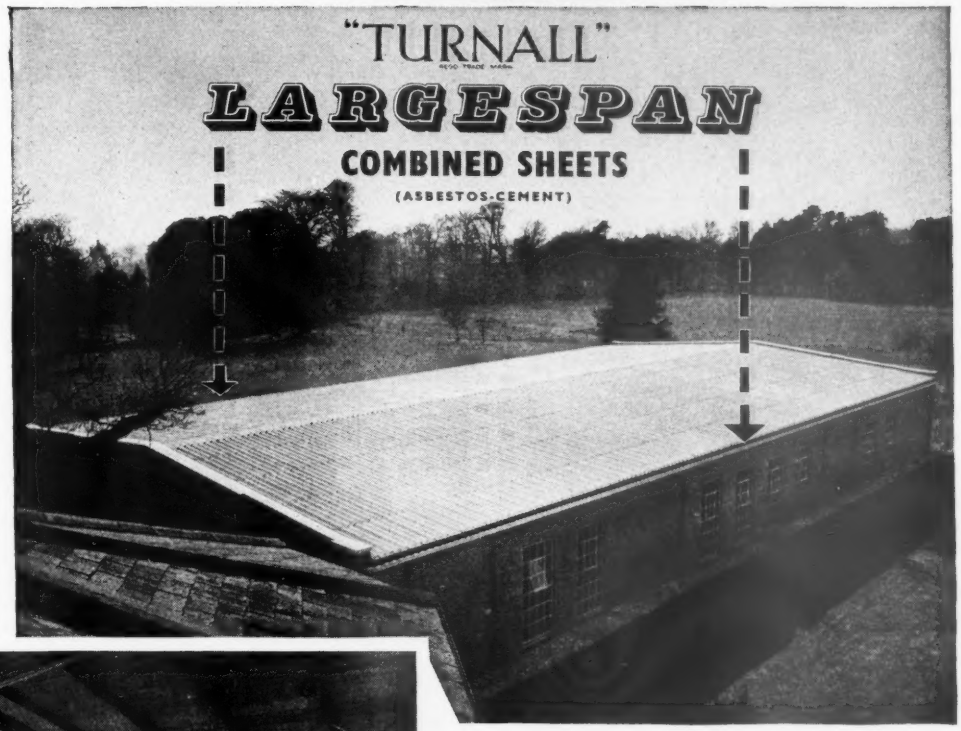

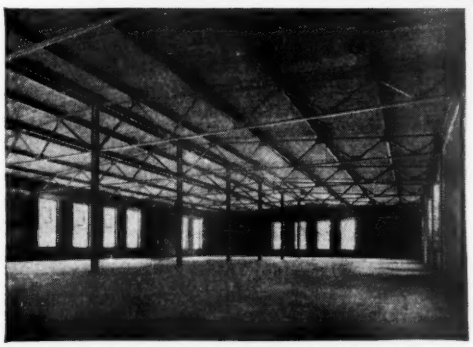

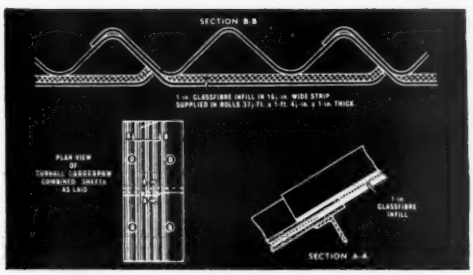

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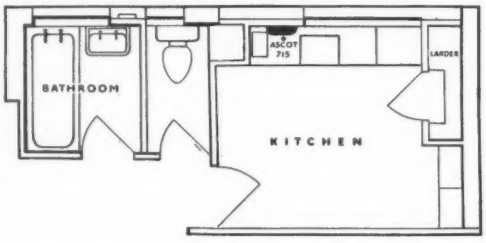

PLAN OF KITCHEN AND BATHROOM IN A TYPICAL TOWER COURT FLAT SHOWING POSITION OF ASCOT 715

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EDITORIAL

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada Appointment

The Council of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada has appointed Mr. Robbins L. Elliott as Executive Director of the R.A.I.C. Mr. Elliott, who is 38, is a Master's graduate in Economics, University of Toronto. He took up his new post at the headquarters of the R.A.I.C. in Ottawa on 1 November.

Ad Hoc Committee

Mr. Richard Sheppard, Hon. Secretary, has consented to retain the Chairmanship of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Representation of Members in Salaried Employment and Review of the Structure of the Profession, for the remainder of the current session.

Local Government Architects' Society

The third meeting of the Provisional Executive Committee of the L.G.A.S. was held on 24 October.

One of the major items discussed was the recommendation to be made to the general meeting on the composition and election of the General Council of the Society. An analysis had been made of the numbers and the geographical distribution of the present membership. It was anticipated that if the major representation could be founded on a geographical basis all members would feel that their views would be fully expressed at Council meetings. With this in mind the areas of the Allied Societies of the R.I.B.A. had been used as a background to the proposals. It was suggested that where the membership in any Allied Society area did not reach thirty members it should combine with an adjacent area to achieve direct representation. The numbers thus elected for direct representation would be: one representative for thirty and over members, two representatives for 100–200 members and three representatives for over 200 members.

The General Council itself will be composed of 20 area representatives, twelve nationally-elected members and three members to represent 'minority' groups in public utilities, health, etc., and will not exceed 35 members.

The Committee also discussed the first draft for the Constitution of the Society.

The total membership of the Society has increased to over 1,300. Membership at the present time supports the work now going on towards the formation of the new Society and it is hoped that all architects entitled to do so will join the Society at this stage rather than wait until after the next general meeting. The membership fee is 5s.

The general meeting to which the Provisional Executive Committee will report is to be held at the end of January at the R.I.B.A. at a date to be announced later. All local authority offices employing architects are invited to send a representative to this meeting, but only representatives of membership as it will stand on 31 December 1958 can be delegates with voting powers.

Full details of the recommendations to be made at the meeting will be circulated to office 'contacts' by 31 December 1958, so that consideration of all items may take place before the general meeting. Any office group of members who are at the moment without a contact are asked to elect one and to inform Mr. A. Goss [*A*], 5 Beatty Lane, Basildon, Essex. Mr. Goss will also supply membership forms on request.

Lord Esher

Viscount Esher, G.B.E. [*Hon F*], has been Chairman of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings for over twenty-five years. To commemorate this, the Committee of the S.P.A.B. commissioned Mr. H. Andrew Freeth, A.R.A., to paint a portrait of Lord Esher to be hung in the Society's Committee room.

At the presentation, Mr. John E. M. Macgregor, F.S.A. [*F*], speaking on behalf of the Committee, said that in 1932 Lord Esher accepted the formal Chairmanship, and from 1938 had been the unerring guardian of the Society's destinies, guiding it from within and increasing its influence outside. During the last twenty-five years many new organisations had come into being, and in the formation of most of them and in their subsequent activities, Lord Esher had taken an effective hand. Among these bodies were the Ancient Buildings Trust, the National Buildings Record, the wartime and post-war listing of historic buildings, the Historic Buildings Council and the Historic Churches Preservation Trust.

At the same time Lord Esher was giving freely of his energies to the National Trust, the London Society, and a number of similar organisations connected with other branches of the arts.

Council Business

The Council met on 4 November, with Mr. Basil Spence, President, in the Chair.

The Council noted with satisfaction the decision of the Inland Revenue Authority to approve the Royal Institute for the purposes of Section 16 of the Finance Act, 1958, as a body for which the whole of the annual membership subscription will be allowable as a deduction from emoluments assessable for income tax under Schedule E, and placed on record their appreciation of the work of the Secretariat of the R.I.B.A. in the negotiations which have taken place over a period of years on this subject.

The Council considered a recent announcement by the Minister of Transport that Urban Road Study Groups were to be set up in the larger cities to plan new roads in built-up areas, which would be complementary to the inter-city motorways, with the aim of preventing these motorways from beginning and ending in traffic bottle-necks.

It was reported that representations had been made to the Minister welcoming his initiative, but drawing attention to the likelihood of complex questions of clearance and redevelopment which might be raised, and strongly urging the advantage of having the advice of architects with knowledge of the specialised field of civic design and planning on the Study Groups.

The Council endorsed the action taken.

Arising from representations made in regard to the proposed demolition of the Coal Exchange, Lower Thames Street, London, the Council reviewed the Institute's policy on intervention in questions of the preservation of buildings of architectural or historic interest.

It was agreed that each case should be considered on its merits but that, generally, detailed knowledge of the circumstances concerning planning and redevelopment would be necessary. To amass such knowledge would require machinery for investigation and the taking of evidence, etc., and the Institute did not possess such machinery. The Council thought these were matters which the various Preservation Societies were in a better position to investigate, and it was therefore agreed to confirm the general policy that the Institute should not intervene except in cases which might be described as monuments of national or international importance.

The First Interim Report of the Constitutional Committee was presented to the Council. It was agreed that the report should be published in the JOURNAL for December with a notice convening a Special General Meeting on 6 January for the purpose of discussion.

It was felt that, in view of the time factor and because the Committee's report presented no more than provisional conclusions on a number of points, that it would be best for the report to be discussed at the Special General Meeting and for both the Committee and the Council to study the matter more fully in the light of the views expressed by members at the meeting. The report deals with the Constitution of the R.I.B.A. Council and the procedure for election in relation to the constitutions of Allied Societies. The various other matters remitted to the Committee will be the subject of further reports.

The Council approved a proposal from the United Kingdom Committee, I.U.A., that a meeting should be held on Thursday 8 January at the R.I.B.A. to give an account of the Moscow Congress.

Other notes from the Minutes of the Council appear on page 67.

British Architects' Conference, 1959. Hotel List

As previously announced, the British Architects' Conference will be held at Cardiff from 10–13 June. The Conference Committee of the South Wales Institute of Architects have made provisional reservation of hotel accommodation, details of which are given on page 66.

Meeting on the Moscow Congress

A meeting will be held at the R.I.B.A. at 6 p.m. on Thursday 8 January 1959 of the U.K. Section of the International Union of Architects, to which all members of the R.I.B.A. belong. The President will be in the chair.

Professor Robert Matthew [*F*], Mr. A. W. Cleeve Barr [*A*] and Mr. Arthur G. Ling [*F*] will talk about the Moscow Congress held earlier this year, and Mr. Paul Drake [*Student*] of the Architectural Association School of Architecture will describe the Leningrad Students' Congress.

The theme of the Moscow Congress was City Reconstruction since the war and the meeting should provide some stimulating information on progress in the rebuilding of cities in other countries. In addition, some very interesting slides of Russian buildings, both old and new, will be shown.

Refreshments will be available in the Members' Room before the meeting.

Discussion on In Situ Concrete Finishes

This meeting is the first of two discussion evenings organised by the R.I.B.A. Science Committee, and will be held on Tuesday 16 December. The second is to be held on Thursday 13 January and will be on 'Suspended Ceilings'.

Mr. W. A. Allen [*A*] will be chairman, and the discussion is to be introduced by Mr. J. G. Wilson [*F*]. All members of the building industry are cordially invited to attend and to contribute freely to the discussion and also to bring slides (preferably 2 in. by 2 in.) and samples of manageable size. The meeting will begin later than is usual for the Institute, at 6.30 p.m., in order that younger architects in particular may be able to attend. Beer, bread and cheese, etc., will be on sale in the foyer from 5.30 p.m.

Le Corbusier Exhibition, Liverpool

The Corbusier Exhibition, which is being opened at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, on 8 December by Mr. E. Maxwell Fry, C.B.E. [*F*], is a full review of his life's work made up from photographs, plans and models. It will also include three pieces of sculpture, ten tapestries and forty-one oil paintings by Le Corbusier.

There is to be a full catalogue, which almost amounts to a book on its subject, containing in addition to the actual catalogue, a large number of photographs and diagrams, articles by Sigfried Giedion, Alfred Roth, and Le Corbusier himself, a short biography and chronology and a fairly full bibliography.

The exhibition will be open to the public from 10 December

to 17 January (excluding 24–26 December) at the following times: Mon., Tues., Fri., Sat., 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Wed., Thur., 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; Sun., 2–5 p.m. Adults will be charged 2*s.* for admission, but for organised parties sponsored by a recognised group, society or school, arranged in advance, the charge will be 1*s.* for adults, 3*d.* for children. Further information may be obtained from the Director, Le Corbusier Exhibition, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, 3.

The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies

The recent rapid expansion in the work of the York Institute of Architectural Study under the direction of Dr. W. A. Singleton, F.S.A., A.M.T.P.I. [*F*], has been chiefly in the field of post-graduate and advanced architectural training. Each year a wider range of courses has been organised and it is expected that this rate of development will be maintained for several years to come until the ideal maximum is reached. At the same time, the membership of these courses has been drawn from all parts of Britain, and also from overseas.

In order therefore to express more clearly the Institute's primary function (and to remove any possible misconception that its scope is local rather than national) it has been decided to change its name to 'The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies', as from 1 November.

The Institute is holding a five-day course on 'Architectural Project Management' at York from 2–6 January, which has received the full support of the R.I.B.A. Practice Committee. Full particulars are given on page 68.

Research into Domestic Housing

There was a note in the November JOURNAL on the Nuffield Foundation grant being made to Edinburgh University Department of Architecture for post-graduate research into housing.

The composition of the research team can now be given in more detail. The basic group, which will operate throughout the five years of the study, will consist of the senior research architect, a sociologist and quantity surveyor, with the assistance of a secretary and technician. The quantity surveyor will carry out a cost study, which will include a preliminary cost analysis of selected examples of recent housing development, as a basis for the cost planning of the two 'live' projects (a rural group of 50–75 low-density houses to be built by the East Lothian C.C., and a high-density housing group to be built at Cumbernauld). These live projects will be the work of two parallel teams of architects, the leaders of which will take part in the general research during the first year. The assistant project staff will include architects with special knowledge of landscape, building science, etc.

The research project is timed to coincide with the growth of the teaching department in the University, and a number of appointments will be made to the University staff of research workers who will be expected to do some part-time teaching and may, eventually, on the completion of the study, be employed as regular teaching staff. The senior research architect will be appointed a senior lecturer at the University of Edinburgh. Some of the regular teaching staff will be expected to give part-time services to the project, while the number of undergraduates remains small.

All posts will be salaried, and whether supported by University or Trust funds will in the main be at the lecturer (£900–£1,650) and senior lecturer (£1,750–£2,150) standard. Some assistant staff salaries will correspond to University assistant standard (£700–£850). Staff may be appointed for a limited length of time, which will not exceed five years.

Professor Matthew hopes to complete the formation of the nucleus of the team in the first weeks of the New Year.

Higher Public Investment in 1959

The level of public investment in 1959–60 is to be allowed to rise by £125 million to £150 million above last year's level estimated at £1,425 million. The Chancellor of the Exchequer told the House of Commons on 3 November that this increase should be 'sufficient to offset any fall that is at all probable in private fixed investment'.

The increase will be devoted first to what the Chancellor called the productive public investment needed to support expansion—electric power, railways and roads. In the non-industrial sphere—schools, universities, hospitals, etc.—a modest increase will be allowed, mainly in the form of bringing forward into the next twelve months some of the expenditures which would otherwise have had to be incurred later, such as maintenance and minor works. No major expansion is envisaged, as this would absorb resources in two or three years' time, when a further expansion of private investment is expected.

Local authorities' housing programmes for 1959 can be rather larger than those for the current year, both for general needs and for slum clearance, provided that the additional houses can be started in the early part of the year. This advice was given to local authorities in a circular from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in mid-November, which also promised especially sympathetic consideration of investment schemes from areas where unemployment is high.

Symposium on Laboratories—II

Many requests have been received for a further meeting to discuss the more detailed requirements of laboratories, as a result the Science Committee have arranged a two-day symposium, to take place on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 February 1959. All types of laboratory are to be discussed and the papers will be concerned with detailed planning, services and equipment. Mr. Richard Sheppard [*F*] is to be in the chair.

Tickets, price £1 10*s.* (Students 15*s.*), from the Secretary R.I.B.A.

'Your House—Why You Should Use an Architect'

At the request of the Allied Societies the Public Relations Committee have produced a four-page pamphlet with the above title. It can be obtained on application to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., price 1*s.* per dozen copies.

The Public Relations Committee hope to produce other pamphlets in this series, and expect to issue a revised edition of *The Architect and Industry* early next year.

Address of the Journal Offices

A certain number of letters and postal packets addressed to the JOURNAL are still directed to the old temporary premises at 78 Wimpole Street. The address of the JOURNAL is 66 Portland Place, W.1.

Christmas Holiday

The R.I.B.A. Offices and Library will be closed at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday 24 December and will reopen on Monday 29 December. The Canteen will be closed all day Wednesday and will not reopen until Thursday, 1 January.

Interim Provisional Report of the Constitutional Committee

A Special General Meeting of the Royal Institute will be held on Tuesday 6 January 1959 immediately following the Announcement of Award of Prizes and Studentships at 6 p.m., for the purpose of considering the Interim Provisional Report of the Constitutional Committee, which is published below, and of hearing a statement by the Honorary Treasurer on the financial situation.

The work of the Constitutional Committee to date amounts to a discussion of principles concerning the constitution of the R.I.B.A. The Interim Provisional Report has not yet been fully considered by the Council. It will be presented to the Special General Meeting as a statement of work done to date (as requested in the resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting in May 1958), and as a means of obtaining the further views of members. Those who have not already done so are invited to submit their views in writing to the Secretary.

The provisional conclusions reached will be re-examined in the light of the comments expressed at the Special General Meeting or received in writing from Allied Societies and members.

It is not proposed therefore, that formal motions should be moved or debated at the meeting, whether submitted beforehand or not. It is simply intended that the meeting should receive a detailed account of the Committee's work and that discussion should be invited.

Arrangements for the Session, 1958–59. Revised Dates

The following changes have been made from the programme printed on the sessional paper cards, and members are asked to please make a note of them. The Presentation of the Royal Gold Medal will be on 26 May instead of 7 April, and the talk on 'Early Industrial Architecture' by Mr. Bryan H. Harvey will now be on 7 April and not on 26 May.

R.I.B.A. Diary

TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER, 6 p.m. General Meeting. *Comprehensive Redevelopment*, by Mr. Percy Johnson-Marshall, A.M.T.P.I. [*A*].

MONDAY 15 DECEMBER, 6 p.m. Library Group. Mrs. M. P. G. Draper, B.A., and Mr. Walter Ison, F.S.A., will introduce an evening on Monmouth House, Soho.

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER, 6.30 p.m. Discussion on *In Situ Concrete Finishes*.

WEDNESDAY 24, 12.30 p.m., to SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER. R.I.B.A. offices closed for Christmas holiday.

WEDNESDAY 24, 12.30 p.m., to SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER. Library closed.

WEDNESDAY 24 to WEDNESDAY 31 DECEMBER. Canteen closed.

WEDNESDAY 31 DECEMBER 1958 and FRIDAY 2 JANUARY 1959. 3 p.m. Christmas Holiday Lectures. *Out in the Midday Sun*, by Mr. Leo De Syllas, A.A.Dipl. [*F*].

TUESDAY 6 JANUARY 1959. 6 p.m. General Meeting. Announcement of Award of Prizes and Studentships. Special General Meeting.

TUESDAY 13 JANUARY 1959. 6.30 p.m. Discussion on *Suspended Ceilings*.

TUESDAY 20 JANUARY 1959. 5.30 p.m. Joint meeting with Institution of Civil Engineers at Great George Street, S.W.1. Papers by Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews, O.B.E., A.R.I.C.S. [*F*], and Mr. Ove Arup, C.B.E., M.I.C.E., M.I.Struct.E.

Interim Provisional Report of the Constitutional Committee

1. INTRODUCTION

Probably the main concern among those who voted at the last Annual General Meeting was to be left in no doubt that the R.I.B.A. Council is fully and democratically representative of the profession at large. This has accordingly been at the core of the Committee's work. Yet it at once became evident that hardly less important than questions of equity were those of administrative method and voting systems, besides various legacies of history of a kind which any long-established institution finds it necessary to review from time to time.

The situation that confronted the Committee at the outset is described in the Appendix. Members will readily see from this that many of the questions it poses are so inter-related as to defy separate treatment. Among the major issues for discussion were these:

(*a*) No Allied Society includes all R.I.B.A. members resident in its area; every Allied Society includes architects who are not R.I.B.A. members; and many Allied Societies include people who are not architects at all. Is it reasonable that an Allied Society President, however elected or appointed by this kind of membership, should automatically be his area's representative on the R.I.B.A. Council? If not, does the answer lie in a re-casting of Allied Society constitutions, or in superimposing a quite new R.I.B.A. regional structure, at any rate for voting purposes?

(*b*) How far in any case is it right to take direct local representation on a body like the R.I.B.A. Council? Should we have a national voting list only and put up with the fact that some candidates will necessarily be unknown to many members; or, conversely, have regional voting only, allowing accidents of geography to deny to most members the opportunity to vote for famous names, and risking the possibility of a slightly 'parish pump' approach with each Council member determined to 'represent' his locality; or settle for a compromise between the national and regional system not unlike the present arrangement?

(*c*) Do we mind the fact that an Allied Society may be 200 or 1,200 strong but in either case is still represented by one member on the Council?

(*d*) Are there any longer valid reasons for recognising a distinction between Fellows, Associates and Licentiates in the composition of the Council? If not, ought the distinction nevertheless to be retained for certain key posts?

(*e*) Some key posts (e.g. Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer) may require an exceptional sacrifice of time or the exercise of relatively rare skills. If they are to be appointed from some 60 elected Council members only, will there invariably be a choice of first-class candidates?

(*f*) As to length of service on the Council, what is a right balance between a healthy turnover on the one hand and proper continuity on the other?

(*g*) What is the case for retaining the various representatives of internal committees and external institutions now included in the Council?

(*h*) Finally, what can be done to represent and foster the interests of some 3,000 corporate members scattered among countries overseas?

2. COMPOSITION OF THE R.I.B.A. COUNCIL

Space clearly forbids a detailed exposition of the arguments surrounding each of these questions of principle; but the problem of regional representation proved to be much the most difficult, and this calls for some special mention.

Broadly, it would have been possible to by-pass the Allied Societies (beyond according their Councils the right to make nominations) and to have organised the entire membership in a system of voting regions in which it would be a matter of chance whether or not the successful candidates were members of their respective Allied Societies. This, however, would have meant some necessarily cumbersome machinery for keeping Allied Societies in touch with R.I.B.A. Council affairs. More important, it would have been tantamount to ignoring the long experience and valuable work of many Allied Societies, whereas, in the Committee's view, the more closely their work and that of the R.I.B.A. can be co-ordinated towards a common end, the better. The aim of the R.I.B.A. is and should be to guide and develop the organisation that already exist, not to supplant them with untried alternatives.

The Committee concluded that this aim could be much advanced, and many electoral anomalies simultaneously resolved, by establishing a system in which all members of the R.I.B.A. would automatically become members of the appropriate Allied Society without additional fee. This would involve detailed problems both of finance and of organisation, but it is not felt that these are insuperable; and it makes possible a rationalisation of the present part-national, part-regional system of voting which the Committee favour rather than elections on a wholly national or wholly regional basis.

It is therefore recommended in principle that in the United Kingdom membership of the appropriate provincial Allied Society should be automatic on corporate membership of the R.I.B.A.

Students, R.I.B.A. on election should also become members of the appropriate Allied Society, but without voting powers in R.I.B.A. elections.

The following principles are also recommended:

(*a*) Members of Council should be elected in part nationally by members throughout the country and in part regionally through Allied Societies.

(*b*) National nominations should be made by the R.I.B.A. Council or by a given number of individual members as at present. Regional nominations should be made by the Allied Societies' Councils or by a given number of individual members in the appropriate area. (Voting and the right of nomination should be restricted to corporate members of the R.I.B.A.)

(*c*) There should be no differentiation by classes of membership or categories of employment or occupation.

(*d*) All members of Council should serve for three years and should be elected by postal ballot.

(*e*) The Council should be no larger than it now is.

(*f*) The present provision by which a member of Council may not serve continuously for more than six years should be retained, subject to the provision set out at paragraph 3 (*b*).

If these principles are accepted, there are many matters of detail to be settled. Among these are the financing of the Allied Societies; methods of nomination nationally and regionally; the representation of members in London and Middlesex; the place and method for the conduct of elections; the possibility of relating the number of representatives to the population of each 'Constituency'; and the best way of ensuring a smooth transition from the present constitution to the new one.

3. THE HONORARY OFFICERS

(*a*) **The Vice-Presidents.** At present the Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference is automatically a Vice-President. It may well be that the proposals above will lead to some re-appraisal of the constitution and functions of the Allied Societies' Conference, but until that takes place—

It is recommended that the Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference be ex-officio a Vice-President, R.I.B.A. as at present.

At present two other Vice-Presidents are appointed by the Council from members of Council. Since the Council will in future consist entirely of elected members (*vide* para. 9)—

It is recommended that no change be made.

Finally, the Council may appoint as a fourth Vice-President one who is not already a member of Council. The Committee think that there is much to be said for making provision in exceptional cases where the services of a highly qualified member would be of value to the Council. Such provision should, however, as at present, be permissive rather than mandatory.

It is recommended that no change be made in the possible methods of selecting a fourth Vice-President.

It is further recommended that there be no restriction as to class of membership of the Vice-Presidents.

(*b*) **The Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.** There are strong arguments both for and against giving discretion for the appointment of these two officers from outside the membership of the Council.

On the one hand there should be provision in emergency for the appointment of a particularly qualified man, especially in connection with the highly specialised duties of Honorary Treasurer. On the other hand, these appointments may be said to need previous experience on the Council, and both these offices, exerting, as they do, a considerable influence on the Institute's policy, ought to be held by those who have at some point received the mandate of the general body of members.

It is therefore recommended that the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer be appointed by the Council from amongst elected Members of Council or those who, having just completed a six-year term of office on the Council, would otherwise be debarred from service in the current year: and that there be no restriction by class of membership.

4. REPRESENTATION OF OTHER BODIES

Besides the Allied Societies' Conference, there are two other bodies which appoint representatives to the R.I.B.A. Council—the Architectural Association and the Association of Building Technicians.

The Architectural Association was founded in 1847. It took the initiative in establishing the R.I.B.A. Examinations in 1855, and has been continuously represented on the R.I.B.A. Council since 1884. The Committee consider that there are special arguments of

sentiment, as well as practical grounds, for continuing the representation of the Architectural Association on the Council on the same basis as in the past.

It is recommended that the Architectural Association continue to be represented on the R.I.B.A. Council as at present.

The origin of the representation of the Association of Building Technicians was at a time when no machinery whatever existed for the representation in the R.I.B.A. of the interests of members in salaried employment. The position has now changed completely.

It is recommended that the appointment of a representative of the Association of Building Technicians on the R.I.B.A. Council be discontinued.

It follows from the principle of having elected members only that various other bodies representing sectional groups of architects, which might otherwise have a good case for representation on the Council, cannot be admitted.

It is recommended that the principle be accepted that the Council should consist of elected members, and that no bodies other than the Architectural Association should be given representation.

5. EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATION OF COMMITTEES

For the reasons set out in paragraph 4 concerning the representation of members in salaried employment,

It is recommended that the appointment of two representatives of the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee on the R.I.B.A. Council be discontinued.

On the other hand the special position of the R.I.B.A. Registration Committee and the link between the R.I.B.A. Board of Architectural Education and the Statutory Board, constitute strong arguments for continuing the ex-officio representation of these two bodies.

It is therefore recommended that the Chairman of the R.I.B.A. Registration Committee and the Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education should continue to be ex-officio Members of the Council: that the former appointment be not restricted by class of membership, but that the latter continue to be restricted to the class of Fellows.

It is recommended that apart from these there should be no ex-officio appointments to the Council.

6. REPRESENTATION OF CORPORATE MEMBERS R.I.B.A. RESIDENT OVERSEAS

These members, whether or not they are members of an available Allied Society in their country, are still part of the general body of the R.I.B.A. and ought in the opinion of the Committee to have equal rights with those in the United Kingdom. They number approximately 3,400. Subject to further consideration of the timetable for the new election procedure and other administrative details which should not present any great difficulty:

It is recommended that the franchise be extended to all Corporate Members, R.I.B.A. resident overseas, to vote in the National Section of the Council election.

7. REPRESENTATION OF OVERSEAS ALLIED SOCIETIES

There is a large number of architects of British nationality practising in Commonwealth countries not members of the R.I.B.A. nor qualified for membership, though fully qualified in their own country and for membership of their own Allied Society. Apart from sentiment, they will have no especial attachment to the R.I.B.A. nor particular claim for a say in its affairs. The following table shows the proportions of members and non-members R.I.B.A. in the Overseas Allied Societies:

	Total Membership	R.I.B.A. Members and Students	Non-R.I.B.A.	Percentage Non-R.I.B.A.
Institute of South African Architects	1,383	411	972	70
East Africa Institute of Architects	207	106	101	49
Institute of Northern Rhodesian Architects	45	38	7	15
Institute of Southern Rhodesian Architects	232	100	132	57
Ghana Society of Architects	58	46	12	21
Royal Australian Institute of Architects	2,540	368	2,172	85
New Zealand Institute of Architects	569	256	313	55
Royal Architectural Institute of Canada	1,796	168	1,628	91
Indian Institute of Architects	545	165	380	70
Institute of Architects of Malaya	141	125	16	11
Federation of Malaya Society of Architects	66	32	34	51

Of these, only the five senior Commonwealth Societies (Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India) are represented on the Council. The Committee do not think there is any argument for extending representation to the other Societies; rather, the direct representation of the five should ultimately be replaced by federal or Commonwealth links of a different kind.

The Committee are aware that there have been informal consultations with a view to setting up some form of Commonwealth Consultative Council in which the R.I.B.A. would participate on an equal footing with the other overseas Allied Societies. The Committee commend this suggestion, but appreciate that it will take time to develop. Meanwhile, they think that developments would be assisted and the interests of overseas Allied Societies sufficiently cared for, if a Commonwealth and Overseas Committee were set up at the R.I.B.A.

It is therefore recommended that:

(*a*) The Institute should work towards a federal relationship with the Commonwealth Allied Societies and should try to evolve some form of Federal Consultative Council.

(*b*) In the meantime, the existing provisions be continued by which the five senior Allied Societies overseas appoint their Presidents as members of the R.I.B.A. Council with deputies in the United Kingdom, but with the modification that these deputies be selected only from already elected members of Council.

(*c*) A Commonwealth and Overseas Committee, which might start as an offshoot of the Constitutional Committee plus the United Kingdom deputies, be formed to watch the interests of overseas Allied Societies and to consider further development of the principle of a Federal Council. Representatives of overseas Societies who may be visiting the United Kingdom should be invited to take part in the meetings of the Committee.

8. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) In the United Kingdom membership of the appropriate provincial Allied Society to be automatic on corporate membership of the R.I.B.A. Students, R.I.B.A. on election to become members of the appropriate Allied Society, but without voting powers in R.I.B.A. elections (para. 2).

(2) Members of Council should be elected in part nationally by the general body of members both at home and overseas, and in part regionally in the United Kingdom through United Kingdom Allied Societies (para. 2 (*a*) and para. 6).

(3) National nominations should be drawn from the R.I.B.A. Council or made by any seven individual members as at present. Regional nominations should be drawn from the Allied Societies' Councils or made by any seven individual

members in the appropriate area. Voting and the right of nomination should be restricted to corporate members of the R.I.B.A. (para. 2 (*b*)).

(4) There should be no differentiation by classes of membership or categories of employment or occupation (para. 2 (*c*)).

(5) All members of Council should serve for three years and should be elected by postal ballot (para. 2 (*d*)).

(6) The Council should be no larger than it now is (para. 2 (*e*)).

(7) The present provision by which a member of Council may not serve continuously for more than six years should be retained, subject to the provision set out at paragraph 3 (*b*) (para. 2 (*f*)).

(8) The Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference to be ex-officio a Vice-President, R.I.B.A., as at present (para. 3 (*a*)).

(9) The two Vice-Presidents already members of Council to continue to be appointed by the Council as at present (para. 3 (*a*)).

(10) The Council to retain the power to appoint a fourth Vice-President in special circumstances from outside the elected membership of the Council as at present (para. 3 (*a*)).

(11) The Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer to be appointed by the Council from amongst elected members of Council or those who, having just completed a six-year term of office, would otherwise be debarred from service in the current year. (See recommendation (7)) (para. 3 (*b*).)

(12) In future, there should be no restriction as to the class of membership of Honorary Officers other than the President (para. 3).

(13) The representation of the Architectural Association on the Council to be continued under the same conditions as at present (para. 4).

(14) The representation of the Association of Building Technicians on the Council to be discontinued (para. 4).

(15) The representation of the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee by two members on the Council to be discontinued (para. 5).

(16) The Chairmen of the R.I.B.A. Registration Committee and the Board of Architectural Education to continue to be ex-officio members of Council; the former appointment not to be restricted by class of membership, but the latter to remain restricted to the class of Fellows (para. 5).

(17) No other ex-officio appointments to be made to the Council (para. 5).

(18) All corporate members, R.I.B.A., resident overseas to have a vote in the national section of the Council election (para. 6).

(19) The Institute should work towards a federal relationship with the Commonwealth Allied Societies and should try to evolve some form of Federal Consultative Council (para. 7 (*a*)).

(20) In the meantime, the existing provisions be continued by which the five senior Allied Societies overseas appoint their Presidents as members of the R.I.B.A. Council with deputies in the United Kingdom, but with the modification that these deputies be selected only from already elected members of Council (para. 7 (*b*)).

(21) A Commonwealth and Overseas Committee to be formed to watch the interests of overseas Allied Societies and to consider further development of the principle of a Federal Council. Representatives of overseas Societies who may be visiting the United Kingdom should be invited to take part in the meetings of this Committee (para. 7 (*c*)).

9. THE ROYAL CHARTERS, BYE-LAWS, AND ALLIED SOCIETIES' RULES

Of the recommendations set out in paragraph 8:

(*a*) The following would necessitate amendments to the Bye-laws: (2), (3), (4), (5), (7), (11), (12), (14), (15), (16), (18), (20).

(*b*) The following would necessitate the grant of a Supplemental Charter: (12).

(*c*) The following would necessitate amendment to the rules of Allied Societies: (1).

10. FURTHER WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

In addition to the many points referred to at the end of paragraph 2 the Committee have yet to consider in detail the structure and organisation of the Allied Societies, as well as the various points or other aspects of the Bye-laws, which were raised at the Annual General Meeting. As stated earlier, however, it has been considered wise to start with a discussion of principles, particularly concerning the constitution of the Council, before proceeding to details of organisation or of Bye-law changes.

APPENDIX

TERMS OF REFERENCE AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Membership

The following members were appointed by the Council at their meeting on 8 July 1958:

Mr. Richard H. Sheppard [*F*], Honorary Secretary.
Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews [*F*], Honorary Treasurer.
Mr. Norman H. Fowler [*F*], Chairman, Allied Societies' Conference.
Mr. Hubert Bennett [*F*].
Mr. Denis Clarke Hall [*F*].
Mr. A. W. Cleeve Barr [*A*].
Mr. Bernard H. Cox [*L*].
Mr. R. O. Foster [*F*].
Mr. Edward Holman [*F*].
Mr. Arthur G. Ling [*F*].
Mr. J. H. Napper [*F*].
Mr. Thomas E. Scott [*F*].
Mr. John C. Stillman [*A*].
Mr. T. H. Thoms [*F*].
Mr. Thurston M. Williams [*A*].
Mr. L. Hugh Wilson [*A*].

Three other members invited by the Council were unable to accept appointment, viz.:

Mr. Kenneth J. Campbell [*A*].
Professor R. J. Gardner-Medwin [*F*].
Mr. Peter F. Shepheard [*A*].

Mr. A. W. Cleeve Barr was elected Chairman of the Committee.

2. Terms of Reference

A proposal to set up the Committee was originally approved by the Council at their meeting on 15 April 1958, the task being to carry out a full review of the structure and finances of Allied Societies and their constitutional position in relation to the R.I.B.A. However, following upon the Annual General Meeting in May 1958, the Committee's tasks were redefined in the following form:

(*a*) Review of the constitution of Allied Societies in relation to the R.I.B.A., including a survey of the current financial arrangements.

(*b*) Review of the constitution of the R.I.B.A. Council in the light of the motion passed at the Annual General Meeting requesting the Council to initiate and prosecute such action as is necessary to ensure that:

(i) Honorary Officers, other than the President and Past Presidents who are directly elected, shall be appointed only from elected members of Council.

(ii) All members of Council who shall be entitled to vote shall be elected by postal ballot—this being organised in the case of regional representatives locally by the Allied Societies.

(*c*) Revision of the Bye-laws. In addition to proposing any consequential revisions to the Bye-laws arising from recommendations the Committee may make in regard to the constitution of the Council, it has also been left to them to examine suggestions in regard to the machinery for requisitioning a referendum and for requisitioning Special General Meetings.

3. Present Position

The following facts are relevant:

Membership of the R.I.B.A. is confined to British subjects but not restricted to the United Kingdom. Nearly 20 per cent of the membership lies outside the United Kingdom.

The present R.I.B.A. Council elected in June 1958 is the result

of the second year of a three-year transitional programme being implemented on the recommendation of the Constitutional Committee which sat under the Chairmanship of Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross (Immediate Past President) during 1954–55. The recommendation was submitted to and approved by the general body of members at General and Confirmatory Meetings held on 20 December 1955 and 10 January 1956.

4. Present Constitution of the R.I.B.A. Council

On completion of the transitional period in June 1959, the constitution of the Council will be as shown in the following tables:

DISTRIBUTION

(*a*) Elected by ballot of General Body resident in United Kingdom or Eire	*Officers:*			
	President	1		
	Past Presidents	2		
			—	3
	Members:			
	Fellows	9		
	Associates	9		
	Licentiates	3		
	'Ordinary Members' (irrespective of class)	9		
			—	30
(*b*) Appointed by Allied Societies in England			17	
Appointed by Allied Societies in Scotland			4	
Appointed by Allied Societies in Wales			1	
Appointed by Allied Societies in Ireland			2	
Appointed by Allied Societies Overseas			5*	
			—	29
(*c*) Appointed by Other Bodies:				
A.A.			1	
A.B.T.			1	
Allied Societies' Conference (ex-officio Vice-President)			1	
			—	3
(*d*) Appointed by Boards or Committees:				
Board of Architectural Education			1	
R.I.B.A. Registration Committee			1	
Salaried and Official Architects' Committee			2	
			—	4
(*e*) Appointed by the Council:				
Vice-President			1	
Hon. Secretary			1	
Hon. Treasurer			1	
			—	3
				72

* With deputies in the United Kingdom.

SUMMARY OF ELECTED AND NON-ELECTED

Elected by ballot	33	(45·8%)
Appointed by other bodies	31	(43·0%)
Appointed by Council	3	(4·2%)
Ex-officio	5	(7·0%)

SUMMARY BY CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Must be Fellows	15	(21·0%)
Must be Associates	9	(12·6%)
Must be Licentiates	3	(4·2%)
Any Class	44	(61·0%)
Fellow or Associate	1	(1·2%)

SUMMARY BY REGIONS, ETC.

Representing Geographical Areas	29	(40·4%)
Elected by General Body (United Kingdom)	33	(45·8%)
Appointed by other Bodies, Committees, Council, etc.	10	(13·8%)

5. Present Representation of Allied Societies in the R.I.B.A. Council

(*a*) UNITED KINGDOM AND REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

(i) Under the present constitution, the following Allied Societies each appoint one representative:

Berks, Bucks and Oxon Architectural Association.
Birmingham and Five Counties Architectural Association.
Devon and Cornwall Society of Architects.
Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects.
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Architectural Association.
Leicestershire and Rutland Society of Architects.
Liverpool Architectural Society.
Manchester Society of Architects.
Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire Association of Architects.
Northern Architectural Association.
Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Society of Architects.
Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors.
South Eastern Society of Architects.
West Yorkshire Society of Architects.
York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society.
South Wales Institute of Architects.
Royal Society of Ulster Architects.
Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland.

(ii) The following Allied Societies, while not individually appointing a representative, share on a federal basis:

Scotland

Aberdeen Society of Architects Dundee Institute of Architects Edinburgh Architectural Association Glasgow Institute of Architects. Inverness Architectural Association Stirling Society of Architects	Through the R.I.A.S. appoint four representatives.

England

Norfolk and Norwich Association of Architects Suffolk Association of Architects	Through the 'East Anglian Society of Architects' appoint one representative.
Bristol and Somerset Society of Architects Gloucestershire Architectural Association Wilts and Dorset Society of Architects	Through the 'Wessex Federal Society of Architects' appoint one representative.

(*b*) OVERSEAS

(i) The following Allied Societies each appoint one representative, with the right to have a deputy in the United Kingdom in the absence of the appointed representative:

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
New Zealand Institute of Architects
Indian Institute of Architects

(ii) The following Allied Societies, while not individually appointing a representative, share on a federal basis:

Cape Provincial Institute of Architects Natal Provincial Institute of Architects Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects	Through the Institute of South African Architects appoint one representative with a deputy in the United Kingdom.
New South Wales Chapter Queensland Chapter Tasmanian Chapter South Australian Institute of Architects Royal Victorian Institute of Architects Western Australian Chapter	Through the Royal Australian Institute of Architects appoint one representative, with a deputy in the United Kingdom.

Society	Corporate Members R.I.B.A. (*F.A.L.*) (*a*)	Students R.I.B.A. (*b*)	Probationers R.I.B.A. (*c*)	Architects or Assistants other than (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) (*d*)	Surveyors and Associated Professions (*e*)	Others (*f*)	Total of Non-R.I.B.A. (*d*), (*e*), (*f*) (*g*)	Total of Society (*h*)	Percentage R.I.B.A. Corporate Members and Students (*i*)	Percentage R.I.B.A. including Probationers (*j*)	Percentage Non-R.I.B.A. (*k*)
									Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Berks, Bucks and Oxon A.A. ..	397	60	61	76	4	3	83	601	76	86	14
Birmingham and Five Counties A.A.	523	131	14	101	60	30	191	859	76	78	22
Devon and Cornwall S.A.	258	69	62	22	—	6	28	417	78	93	7
Norfolk and Norwich A.A. ..	110	22	0	43	13	11	67	199	66	66	34
Suffolk A.A.	61	13	— (*b*)	23	—	8	31	105	70·5	70·5	29·5
Essex, Cambs and Herts S.A. ..	732	187	24	106	40	60	206	1,149	80	82	18
Hants and I.O.W. A.A.	223	63	46	25	49	17	91	423	67·5	78·5	21·5
Leics. and Rutland S.A.	106	17	2	10	4	11	25	150	82	83	17
Liverpool Architectural Soc. ..	247	46	40	12	1	56	69	402	73	83	17
Manchester S.A.	454	120	— (*b*)	40	—	144	184	758	76	76	24
Northants, Bedfordshire and Hunts A.A.	170	39	20	35	2	8	45	274	76	83·5	16·5
Northern A.A.	484	137	186 (*a*)	49	—	6	55	862	72	93·5	6·5
Notts, Derby and Lincs S.A. ..	401	77	90 (*a*)	87 (*a*)	—	—	87 (*a*)	655	73	87	13
Sheffield, S. Yorks and District S.A.S.	160	15	3	24	16	8	48	226	78	79	21
South Eastern S.A.	1,249	180	167	224	19	6	249	1,845	77·5	86·5	13·5
Bristol and Somerset S.A.	283	54	39	56	—	27	83	459	73	82	18
Gloucestershire A.A.	108	26	29	35	—	10	45	208	64	78	22
Wilts and Dorset S.A.	117	11	16 (*a*)	3	—	5	8	152	84	95	5
West Yorkshire S.A.	426	173	95	16	17	87	120	814	73·5	85	15
York and E. Yorkshire A.S. ..	191	76	— (*b*)	47	—	3	50	317	84	84	16
South Wales I.A.	311	76	100 (*a*)	140 (*a*)	—	—	140 (*a*)	627	61·5	77·5	22·5
R.I.A.S.	1,306	323	— (*b*)	514	62	—	576	2,205	74	74	26
R.S.U.A.	134	60	33	50	—	7	57	284	68	80	20
R.I.A.I.	106	4	— (*b*)	261	—	91	352	462	24	24	76
Totals	8,557	1,979	(1,027)	1,999	287	604	2,890	14,453	73	(80)	(20)

Notes: (*a*) Estimate. (*b*) No records available. (*c*) Figures in brackets are open to doubt owing to lack of complete information.

Membership of Allied Societies, 1958. United Kingdom and Irish Republic.

(iii) The following Allied Societies are *not* represented on the R.I.B.A. Council:

East Africa Institute of Architects.
Institute of Northern Rhodesian Architects.
Institute of Southern Rhodesian Architects.
Ghana Society of Architects.
Institute of Architects of Malaya.
Federation of Malaya Society of Architects.

(*c*) PRESIDENTS REPRESENTING ALLIED SOCIETIES

In accordance with Bye-law 28, those Allied Societies which are represented on the R.I.B.A. Council must appoint their Presidents to represent them. In the majority of societies, the constitutions provide for the election of Presidents by the vote of the general body of members, though in practice contested elections are rare.

6. Membership of Allied Societies in the United Kingdom

The table above has been compiled from information supplied by Allied Societies. It sets out the proportions of members and non-members, R.I.B.A.

7. Membership of Allied Societies Overseas

The position differs from that in the United Kingdom and varies in different Commonwealth countries. In the five senior Commonwealth Allied Societies 74 per cent (average) of the membership are not members of the R.I.B.A. In the smaller Commonwealth Allied Societies the proportion of non-R.I.B.A. members is substantially lower (20 per cent or less) and there are very few R.I.B.A. members resident in the 'newer' countries who are not members of the appropriate Allied Society. However, with the development of some of these countries towards independence it is probable that the proportion of architects locally qualified but not eligible for membership of the R.I.B.A. will increase, with the result that the proportion of non-R.I.B.A. members in these Allied Societies will also increase.

With regard to the major Commonwealth countries, the proportion of R.I.B.A. members who are not members of the Allied Society is fairly low, apart from Canada, where, in certain provinces, the Associateship, R.I.B.A., does not qualify for registration and membership of the Allied Society until Canadian Citizenship has been attained.

8. Councils of Other Comparable Institutions

The Committee have thought it proper to examine the constitution and method of election of the Councils of some twelve other comparable institutions. They much appreciate the assistance and information which was so readily made available by each institution.

There appear to be two distinct systems:

(i) nomination and election by the whole general body of members. In this case provision is often made for nomination by regional or sectional interests, but candidates are voted on by the whole general body.

(ii) representation by regional or sectional interests, but with no detailed provisions being laid down for the procedure by which these interests select their representatives.

Some institutions have a composite system in which part of the Council is appointed by each method. It may be noted that the R.I.B.A. Council as at present constituted is an example of this composite system.

Inaugural Address of the President

Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A.

Given at the R.I.B.A., 4 November, 1958

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, this is the time of year when the President of the R.I.B.A. is allowed to speak as he wishes, to ride his favourite hobby-horse or horses, to throw a pebble in the pool: but in the stormy waters of the Institute something like a rock is necessary to make the appropriate splash. However I am no rock thrower, but I have a few pebbles in my pocket, and remembering what David did to Goliath, I shall try hard and take courage from this incident.

Glance at the architectural scene within the Institute. A great Commonwealth of Allied Societies at home and overseas, with a membership of about 18,000. But what do we find? I need hardly refer to our troubles which came to a head at the last and very historic Annual General Meeting, and the present lack of unity—the older generation looking with mistrust at the younger, with the plain knowledge that the young generation of architects is revolting.

But I can just speak as one of the missing generation—the generation of architects who were almost obliterated by the First World War—as I missed that war by only six years; and when I look at the young generation of architects, I find it remarkable in many ways—self-critical, critical of others, serious, thoughtful, hardworking, impatient of the lack of progress, misunderstood, completely lacking in respect for their elders, and devastatingly aware of what is happening in other parts of the world. It is in their hands that the future of British architecture rests.

In the past we have, of course, made our contribution to world architecture, but this contribution has seldom been spectacular. In our cathedrals we went for length and serenity, when the French went for soaring heights. When they built their Beauvais, we built Winchester; when the Pope in Rome was planning Saint Peter's, we were engaged on King's College Chapel, Cambridge. When Wren went to Paris to see Bernini, the Corbusier of his day, he was allowed a quick look at the plans for the Louvre and sent packing. But the Danes, who have made a great impact on world architecture—especially for such a small nation—and certainly with their furniture, have acknowledged time and again the influence of 18th-century British architects and designers. I am certain our contribution is deeper, more fundamental—and in the end a greater gift to the human race—than is generally realised, as architecture must be a servant of humanity, and not the other way around. It is interesting to me that in history the dictator who can command many slaves has always indulged in the spectacular and the showy—the Egyptian Pharaohs, the Roman Emperors, Napoleon with his Place D'Étoile, the breathtaking vista to the Louvre over obelisks and other trophies of war, when we have our Horseguards, Whitehall, the Mall and beautiful Saint James's Park—and nearer the present day, Mussolini with his excellent motorroads and heavy imperialistic monuments. Hitler, of course, followed exactly the same pattern.

We, on the other hand, are a freedom-loving people where each individual is counted as important, and without a doubt the world's truest democracy, and it is from this insistence on the rights of the individual that there springs our fundamental attitude to architecture and where we have made our greatest contribution. Traditionally we are masters of scale; this has always been so, and should continue if we do not fall into the trap of not realising its worth. I am certain that the same feeling of rightness in building to the human stature and needs, that brings thousands of visitors every year to the Cotswolds, will continue to flourish and thrive. It would be a great pity if in chasing the spectacular we lost or dissipated this all-important facet of all great architecture.

Secondly, we are masters of quality of material and workmanship. Traditionally, the words 'British Made' stand for just this. Do not neglect our immediate forebears the Victorians, because I believe they achieved a perfection of workmanship, combined with good material, such as we have never seen. The Victorian taste is suspect to many, but it was condemned outright during the period in between the wars. Taste is a transient thing, a cloud that hovers and floats, and changes shape. There is no doubt that taste will always be with us, but with an ever-changing character, and there is no solid foundation to this change except a vague recurrence of form.

Perhaps our genius for workmanship has been transferred to the engineering field, for our ships, bridges, aeroplanes, motor-cars, and, recently, equipment to harness nuclear energy, are all world beaters. My point is this—British workmen make these things exactly as they are called upon to build our buildings. It is absolutely essential, in my view, that architects must consider materials and their ability to weather and look right, and even beautiful, in the great range of climatic conditions enjoyed in Britain.

The older generation of architects with their vast experience have this knowledge. For we must realise that the common brick is perhaps the most successful prefabricated building component ever invented, and stone, wood, bronze, copper and glass are all capable of contemporary interpretation. But new materials and methods of building must be tried out, and here I cannot but regret the tendency to turn our backs on the national exhibition, like the Festival of Britain, which consolidated modern British architectural thought. Exhibitions are like hot-houses, where new seeds are planted and forced: every good garden has a hothouse. On the other hand, traditional craftsmanship of the highest order can be seen in some of the Ministry of Works recent restorations—notably Chiswick House—which is remarkable for its scholarly and sensitive handling.

Thirdly, we dedicate our buildings to the service of humans, and I say this is our most fundamental and important contribution. Our attitude to building is truly democratic, which has its pitfalls as well as many positive advantages.

The growth of Oxford and Cambridge, as university cities, is an example of organic growth of architecture under democratic conditions. Both have been called truly English—Cambridge, as yet unspoiled, and Oxford almost suffocated by the motor industry—but with all faults taken into account, these two university cities reach a standard of scholarly sophistication combined with humanity which, in my opinion, is hard to equal anywhere in the world. The wonderful collegiate feeling of the quadrangles, the solitude and peace of the courtyard and the cloister, and the individual treated gently so that he is free to think unfettered, the college tutors, traditions, and library there to help him.

One can only hope that this tradition of building for the individual, and in the contemporary architectural language, will be preserved and that copyism (dipping willy-nilly into past styles) which is so alien to the original Oxford and Cambridge, will be allowed to die quietly—which after all is its due. For Oxford and Cambridge are vital and living because they were given life through original thought: copyism is, in my opinion, the shortest cut to stillborn architecture.

One can now ask if ever before in history there grew an architecture out of the seeds of democracy. The answer is, of course, Greece.

I visited the Acropolis in Athens in the spring of this year, and I would like to show you a few photographs I took.

Greek architecture stands for perfection within a clearly stated and limited objective. Perfection of scale, material and workmanship, the whole architecture is devoted to

Photograph: Basil Spence, President R.I.B.A.

the service of humanity. Under the impetus of the original democracy, it is easy to understand why architecture rose to such sublime heights.

A number of colour slides were then shown

All that remains of the Acropolis is built of Pentellic marble. The temptation to use two or three different but beautiful building materials in the same group has been avoided. Pentellic marble in depth is pure magic.

The dramatic siting, masterly correctness in scale, perfection in workmanship, nothing as nasty as mortar is used for joints, all the building is dry with bronze clamps and joints razor-thin, even to this day. This makes Greek architecture.

In Saint Lorenzo in Florence, Michelangelo has left us some unfinished sculptures. In their unfinished state they are robust, vital and roughly textured, like many finished sculptures today. But the master is not content with this, as is clear when one examines the many finished examples in the same building, as he appears to give a new life to the already vital sculptures: a new life is born out of the old, like the caterpillar and the butterfly. So it appears to me with the builders on the Acropolis.

Never before has the true meaning of quality hit me so hard as I looked at those buildings. Marble on marble, marble in depth, perfect simplicity and scale, perfect proportion. An architecture to lift up the heart of the individual.

Later on, as the sun set, the colour of the marble changed and we saw that there was a greater depth to it than just the choice of Pentellic marble as a marble. It took on a radiant beauty that is hard to describe. Here was quality.

I told you at the beginning that I was going to give you a personal manifesto of architectural faith, and I firmly believe that our genius lies in the direction I have tried to indicate. Why are we so apologetic? As so often the spectacular can steal the attention away from the example of pure quality. The words shouted in a loud voice drown the quiet still voice of wisdom.

We, as a nation, are falling over backwards to be thought nice by the rest of the world: we want to be liked. The picture of the Britisher abroad shyly lurking in the shady corner, profuse in his thanks to waiters and others for the privilege of spending *his* money in *their* country, is now a commonplace. I find this picture a bit depressing and not a little nauseating. I think we behave in exactly the same way in the architectural world. Our attitude appears to be that if it is British how can it possibly be really good?

I am not saying that our work now is world shattering. What I *am* saying is that we have the potential and we should recognise, value, and use what God has given us.

And I say further, that there are many formidable obstacles to good architecture appearing after the drawing-board stage. Not least is that architects have to build

Photographs: Basil Spence, President R.I.B.A.

not for themselves, but for someone else who has specific needs and supplies the cash. The other artists, painters, and sculptors need not be financed in this way. In the case of the architect the level of knowledge and appreciation of the client is vital. The menace of a client who knows a little and insists on telling the architect how to do his job is known to us all. The ideal client is the man of knowledge and sympathy who encourages the architect to do his job, is clear in his requirements, and then is capable of criticising tactfully and constructively.

This ideal client, so essential to good architecture, can only come from a pretty high-grade knowledge of architecture. I believe we must use every means possible to let the public know what architecture is about. We must step up our propaganda.

The Council of Industrial Design has done a wonderful job since the end of the war, and we as architects owe a debt to them, as their propaganda is the same as ours. And recently the Civic Trust has come into being—we all wish this new force for good architecture every success.

But we in the Institute must not rely on others; a battle has to be fought against public ignorance and apathy, and sometimes aggressive retrogression. An architect with talent, knowledge, and even a good budget can have his efforts negated by an unsympathetic and ignorant client.

This leads me to my last pebble. As I have said, the future of the profession rests in the hands of quite a remarkable younger generation. But in this democratic set-up there have been profound errors, to my way of thinking.

The young architect with his integrity completely intact is launched into the architectural jungle. Invariably he starts, as I did, with a part-time teaching appointment, and a job to build a small house. He will usually get his first commission because his client is a personal friend, and admires his work, and would like to help him. He does an interesting modern design, which is enthusiastically received all round. He then applies for planning permission, and is turned down flat. He then has to appeal, and it is remarkable how many judgments have been reversed after appeal, and I know you will like me to thank the Minister of Housing and his staff for rescuing so many good designs off the scrap heap.

If ever an objective of the lowest common denominator of ignorance and bad architecture had to be achieved, the planning committee precisely fits the bill. That is my own personal conviction. They have the power to be destructive, though I need hardly add that some committees use their power well, but it nearly always results in delays, anguish and friction, and adds enormously to the architect's work when things should be made easier and not harder. I have yet to hear of a case when the planning committee improved a design. It is hard for the highly trained professional to submit to the untrained lay judgment. It is as if a trained and talented chef produces on request a *Pain d'Écrevisse Sauce Cardinal* and is told by a third party—a third party, mark you—to take it away and produce instead fish and chips. We are left with both chef and consumer (who pays) violently protesting. The chef may not be so upset if he was told to recook by a world-famous culinary expert, but instead he may be told to restart by someone who does not know what *Pain d'Écrevisse Sauce Cardinal* is at all.

Every young architect knows that the best way to get over the planning committee hurdle is to do a mediocre design that is completely common-place, and therefore up to the average lay committee's level of appreciation, and he will get it accepted first go. The country is strewn with such houses. This does not

help good architecture and furthermore it tends to destroy the young architect's most precious asset, his integrity, long before he can consolidate his ideas and become a really useful and tough member of the architectural profession.

We are in an adventurous new period of architectural development and architects must be helped, not hindered, by this form of bureaucracy if we are to allow our native genius to flourish in the future. I sincerely appeal, and this is purely a personal appeal, to the Minister to consider abolishing the planning committee for a trial period. I say this because I believe it, but please realise that it is the planning committee, the lay planning committee, and not the planning professional, that I am complaining about.

I am certain that this will result in a lively experimental era, full of vitality and movement. No one would deny that mistakes will be made. Of course they will, but what a small price for vitality. It is true that in nature there is great wastage to ensure the survival of a species. Was it not Henry Ford who said 'the man who is afraid to make a mistake never made anything'? What is most important, it will be a great encouragement to the young architect, and he will not be penalised when he requires support, but with a feeling of confidence can design and build with vitality and integrity.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Right Hon. Hugh Molson, M.P., Minister of Works: I am sure that we should all like to congratulate the Royal Institute on the President that it has elected. Everybody has known of him for a long time as an imaginative and progressive architect of great vitality. That need not in itself make him a good President of the Institute, but we have heard him today and it is quite clear that he is going to bring to his high and responsible office the same sort of imagination and the analytical mind which has shown itself in the buildings he has produced.

I was very much interested in all that he said about this being an age when a new architecture is coming to life, and I was naturally very much interested in the censure that he passed upon planning committees. I was extremely glad to think that I am the Minister of Works and not the Minister of Housing and Local Government. I shall certainly pass on as Minister of Works his suggestion to my colleague, but I refrain from expressing any view as to whether it should be put into operation.

I would just say this: that there is at the same time the great advantage and the great handicap of the architect in comparison with other kinds of artists. Whereas in the case of a disagreeable picture it is easy to destroy it and nobody need go and look at it, when an architect has built a great building in a prominent place, then for a very long time everybody is obliged to be aware that it exists. So while I am sure that we all desire that there should be the greatest freedom for architects in order that they may develop on their original lines, I do think that perhaps some measure of restraint upon them is needed because their works are so large and so difficult to destroy. It may well be that the solution would rather be that such control as is exercised should be exercised by those with informed and judicious tastes and perhaps we could make an improvement in that way.

I am very glad indeed that on this occasion we should have with us today Sir Arthur Stephenson, a most distinguished Australian architect.

I should like to propose a most hearty vote of thanks to your President for his most interesting and inspiring Inaugural Address, and I am sure we all wish him the very greatest success during his period of office.

Sir Gordon Russell, C.B.E., M.C. [*Hon. A*], Director, Council of Industrial Design: I have listened to your President's address with the greatest possible pleasure. I have known him for some fifteen years, and during the course of three large exhibitions —Britain Can Make It, Enterprise Scotland, and the Festival of Britain, in all of which he took a leading part—saw quite a lot of him.

He has, I think, exactly the right approach to the design of exhibitions, the use of buildings purely as experimental things which will be taken down some time or other and enable the architect to test out ideas which perhaps he would not want to do in a permanent building. This was not the idea behind some of our exhibitions, but it was behind these, at any rate.

He is interested, I know, in designing furniture, but I think he always has the feeling that the real role of the architect is as the co-ordinator of an orchestra, and he realises that there may be other people in the orchestra who play certain instruments possibly better than he does himself. But he knows that nobody else can get as much out of the whole group, and I think in so many ways it would have been better if architects in the past had looked upon themselves more in that way, as co-ordinators; rather than trying to design every single thing, which is really asking a great deal of any one person in one lifetime.

I think it is for lack of this sort of encouragement that the crafts today, many of them, are in a bad way. It is typical of your President that he realised what was lacking. It was not only the orders, but even more it was a more imaginative approach to design. The insistence by the arts and crafts movement that the craftsman must himself design everything that he makes is sound, of course, in certain works like calligraphy, but elsewhere I think it has often led to rather dull work. For how many superb workmen are also gifted designers? And on top of that how many of those too can run a one-man business? That is not an easy thing to do at the present time.

Who but your President would have thought of commissioning Graham Sutherland to design that great tapestry—the biggest one that will have been woven for a very long time—for Coventry; or of commissioning the small group of glass workers at the Royal College of Art to design those great 80 ft. high windows which we saw at the Victoria and Albert Museum not very long ago? Both of these were imaginative conceptions of bringing new ideas and new blood to those crafts. And there is an almost more important point that I should like to stress before an architectural audience. He did not wait like a lot of architects would have done until the building was nearly completed and then commission them in a hurry. He actually commissioned them almost before the foundations were in, and they will be ready to go into the building when it is ready. That is a very wonderful thing to do, because commissions of that sort must have plenty of time if they are to be carried out as well as they should be.

I liked very much your President's remarks about the importance of educating the layman. I have often thought that architects spend too much time grumbling about their clients and not nearly enough trying to get across to their clients what they are trying to do. For after all, as he told you, a good building depends as much on a good client as on a good architect—sometimes perhaps even more, because a bad client has an uncanny aptitude for choosing a bad architect, if in such a hallowed atmosphere as this one might suggest that such an animal does exist!

Who, again, can explain a project to a group of laymen better than Basil Spence? I watched him melt a group of very tough industrialists. He is such a human sincere person that no one would doubt for a moment that he is talking because he believes passionately in what he is doing and that the job is worth doing, and not because he loves the limelight.

Those of us who know something of the Institute realise that he has taken office at a time when much stocktaking has to be done. It is therefore important to realise that he is a man who will listen patiently to all points of view and will endeavour to find a common-sense workable solution—an extremely rare thing for anyone to attempt to do in the modern world. But I believe that is what he will attempt to do.

I was especially interested in his remarks about planning committees. I have a feeling that we should take great care that buildings are not put in the wrong place, but we should not spend so much time trying to dictate what they should look like.

Your Institute paid me the compliment a short time ago of electing me an honorary associate, and about a fortnight after that I had what I thought was a very interesting small building turned down flat by a planning committee. I noticed all around farmers putting up prefabricated buildings which had no architectural merit of any sort, and yet there was no permission necessary for them. It is a clear indication, I think, of how low architecture is rated by a good many business men, but hardly any of the farmers making such buildings thought it worth while employing an imaginative architect to design them, even

though he would not have to fight a planning committee. I feel that if there had been more architects with the same interest in new forms of building as your President a few years ago, this kind of thing would not have happened.

I have very much pleasure in seconding this vote of thanks.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Richard H. Sheppard [*F*]: Before I put the vote of thanks to the meeting, perhaps I might add one or two words of my own to what has already been said about our President.

As an Institute we are very fortunate to have Basil Spence at this particular time. I know what a sacrifice he is making of his own time, with so many projects to his hand. I feel we should be very grateful that we have his initiative and energy and *panache* to help us.

Secondly, I should like to say what no one else has said—what very nice slides they were. I think he took them himself. I think we should also say how much we enjoyed them.

The President: It is my very pleasant duty now to thank you very much for responding so generously to the vote of thanks so kindly proposed by the Minister of Works and so beautifully seconded by my old friend Sir Gordon Russell. It is clear that what I have said has been understood.

About planning committees, I might just say that Sir Gordon is not the only one who has had trouble with them. I have! I can well remember in a very big and important city in Great Britain—and I am not going closer than that—I put forward a scheme for a large building of three-quarters of a million pounds. I had to go several times to the planning committee to convince them, even though it was a building to do with science, that it should be accepted. Their criticism, if I remember rightly, was that it looked like a bombed building. That was a criticism that I could not get my teeth into. Somehow I found it difficult to find the right reply.

UNVEILING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PORTRAIT

The President: Now we come to another section of the proceedings—the unveiling of the presidential portrait which has been carried out by Mr. Middleton Todd, R.A. Before I unveil the portrait, I should like to add a personal tribute to the Immediate Past President.

We must realise that he and the Secretary went on their world tour, which was a very important part of the Institute's work, to meet architects overseas, and that when he came back he found everything in a turmoil. We had one of those storms that blow up. I know only too well, because I sail, how they can blow up over the North Sea in a quarter of an hour. He showed the sterling quality of stability and being calm under the most exacting circumstances. I feel that we owe him a great debt in the way he held the Institute during these very, very difficult months, and I should like to pay my own personal tribute to him now.

When we come to the portrait, I think you will consider it a very good likeness. I cannot say that it is a speaking likeness, because Kenneth Cross has taught me one thing—to listen. Therefore, I think it is a very good listening likeness.

Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross, M.A., D.C.L., Immediate Past President: First of all, Mr. President, I must thank you most sincerely for your very kind tribute. It is quite undeserved. There is a great deal to be said for listening: one picks up an awful lot of information. It does not do any harm. It very often calms people. But if the situation is now more or less in hand, nobody is more delighted than I am.

As to the trip round the world, it—of course—has been looked upon as a pleasure cruise, but it was hard work. But the overriding feeling that I had on returning to this country was what a fine Institute this is; that it is without doubt the finest architectural institute in the world: and I do not hesitate to tell everybody that. There is no question at all about the loyalty to us of our friends overseas, and Sir Arthur Stephenson will bear me out in this. The loyalty to us of our friends in New Zealand, Australia and Canada and the friendliness of the Americans to British architects is perfectly wonderful.

That, then, is my feeling, and I think the Secretary will bear me out, because after all he did a lot of work then. He knew many people. He was invaluable in negotiations, and he guided me and told me what I should not say.

Over this business of the portrait, as you know, one of the first things that happens to a new President is that he receives a letter, a letter of instructions, a letter of advice, beautifully couched in R.I.B.A. prose from the Secretary. I mention this letter because one of the suggestions it contained was that at an early stage of my period of office I should seek out an artist who would be willing to paint my portrait. I took immense pains over this, visited galleries, wrote to people, got photographs, and so on. Finally, I found my man, Middleton Todd. It only remained to meet him. This I achieved, and during the first few seconds of our meeting I watched him very carefully. He did not disclose by the merest flicker of an eyelid the thoughts that arose in his mind. And so the sittings were arranged. There were 15 sittings altogether. Each sitting was a little over two hours. There was refreshment at half-time and when I thought he wanted to talk we discussed everything under the sun. We discussed the French Impressionists, the Italians, the Victorians and his colleagues on the Council of the Royal Academy. The time passed pleasantly enough. It is always fascinating to watch a master of his craft at work, and I discovered that with the help of a mirror which was behind him I could see quite a lot when he did not get in the way.

It is said of Titian that he painted the mind in the face and unfolded the soul of things to the eye. But I feel here that I am getting rather into deep waters, and for me I would say that Middleton Todd's work is both vigorous and sensitive. A true artist takes no notice whatever of the general public and Middleton Todd is like that; and so it does not matter really what I say at all. But I venture to think that I was successful in getting a good painter and that whereas the famous portrait painter Sargent in a previous generation used to say that whenever he painted a portrait he lost a friend, in this instance I hope that Middleton Todd will be able to say that he has gained one.

PRESENTATION OF LONDON ARCHITECTURE BRONZE MEDAL

The President: It is a great pleasure to me at this stage to welcome Frederick MacManus as the winner of the London Architecture Bronze Medal and Diploma for 1957. This gives me particular pleasure because I know that he has been on the final count in the short list for many of these medals, for I have served on the juries myself.

The building in question is Brunel House, Cheyne Walk, London, in the Borough of Chelsea.

It gives me enormous pleasure to present the replica of the Medal to Mr. Alderman B. Marsden-Smedley, Mayor of Chelsea, as representing the building owners.

It also gives me great pleasure to present a Diploma to Mr. Laurence Holloway, of Messrs. Holloway Bros., the contractors for the building.

Mr. Frederick MacManus [*F*]: I would say with all sincerity that the award came as a complete surprise to me (as indeed it did to one architectural columnist) and particularly for such a simple building, when so many worthy and exciting new ones are now being built. But this does not diminish the very great pleasure and pride my office and I feel that one of our buildings should be honoured in this way.

I am also particularly pleased that the building selected should have been concerned with Metropolitan housing and by a firm that still bears the name of my former partner, Edward Armstrong. I want to take this opportunity to pay a tribute to him—a friend and architect who has contributed so much, including his health, to the pioneering work of Metropolitan housing. In my opinion, no other architect in private practice has contributed so much in this field, in his day, as he. I am pleased to say that I have just received a cable from him in New Zealand to say that he will be here in spirit tonight.

I would also like to mention the late Felix Pulzer, who was a member of the firm of structural engineers, Bylander and Waddell, who so ably succeed in imparting the necessary structural stability to most of our buildings.

As seems usual with bronze medal buildings we were very fortunate in our builders, having that eminent firm of

Holloway Bros., so ably led by Mr. Laurence Holloway and having such competent members of staff as Mr. Cramp and Mr. Braham.

I must, of course, mention our quantity surveyors, William C. Inman and Partners. As quantity surveyors their only fault is that they often devise final accounts less than the contract sum, resulting in our having to refund fees to the client!

Which, of course, brings me to the most important person of all—the client. I must say that in Chelsea Borough Council we were blessed with the most understanding of clients, and I am particularly pleased that His Worship the Mayor, Alderman Basil Marsden-Smedley, is here tonight to represent the client, as it was mainly he and Alderman Tunbridge who successfully guided the project through the various committees at the time. I must say, however, that Brunel House was the only building of the many we had the pleasure of designing for Chelsea that was the subject of any aesthetic discussion—but this was only because we resisted putting an 18th-century façade upon it.

There are, of course many other people who were concerned with the erection and completion of this building; it would take too much time to mention them all by name, from County and Borough Council officials to the many sub-contractors and suppliers of materials and not forgetting the Clerk of Works. I would, however, like to mention last, but not least, the name of Brian Smith, who is now one of my associate partners. It was he who so ably interpreted my ideas and made most of the drawings.

Once again, Mr. President, I must repeat how very proud and pleased I am to have received this great honour—the architects' 'Oscar'—from you tonight. Thank you very much.

Alderman B. Marsden-Smedley, Mayor of Chelsea: It is really with the greatest possible pleasure that I came to receive this medal for which I have no deserts at all.

Now, I speak from this rather dock-like place: I am a magistrate, so forgive the word. But I was 19 years Chairman of a town planning committee, and I would like to say that town planning committees are, I am sure, as described, but on this occasion we really did approve and approved very much and tried to help over this building. I can remember going round with the then Chairman of the Housing Committee, Alderman Tunbridge, and we discussed this project with Mr. MacManus. I should think during the afternoon we must have used a whole beautiful book of stationery, covered it with thick lead pencil drawings, until we got something like what we had agreed would suit this place. It was in a particular historic part of Cheyne Walk, namely the west end. It was quite close to Turner's house there, and you will all remember that Turner went to Chelsea. But if you have read the history books on Turner's life you will have read that he was only there for the last three years of his life. This is quite untrue. He was there at any rate in 1839. It was the view from his window which, he said, was the reason he went to this particular place, to examine sky and water. He had his chair wheeled to the window every day. And it was from that period that the later abstract period of Turner's work started.

I think the view in this particular case is something which is absolutely dominant, and we did set Mr. MacManus the task of designing a building which had quite a large number of windows looking out on to this view. Also it had to harmonise with the other Georgian buildings in the row.

He had to design flats, and it would obviously be absurd to copy the window heights in the other buildings. But I think if you look at it in scale and in the proportion in which he has put the windows it does exactly what the instructions of the client, namely ourselves, rightly or wrongly were. These were that it should harmonise with the building without necessarily slavishly copying the design. Indeed, the design itself is one of great originality. I am bound to say our own Borough Council Works Committee has put a lamp-post just in front in what I would call a very annoying position, but I suppose I must not complain at myself! It is a building which will be remembered with increasing appreciation, and I should like to say thank you for this memento which we do not really deserve but which will be most carefully preserved in the Town Hall, Chelsea. Thank you very much.

The President: It is my pleasure now to call on Mr. Laurence Holloway, representing Messrs. Holloway Bros.

Mr. Laurence Holloway, representing Messrs. Holloway Bros.: It is very pleasant to come here and be accepted as necessary. I have heard so frequently architects claiming that they built this and they built that. It is very pleasant on this very auspicious occasion to hear at least from your lips that we are the people who build and you are the people who design.

If I might be really impertinent, I would like perhaps to suggest that you might during your period of office think it would be a good thing if all contractors were forced to put their names in some suitable form on the buildings which they build. It might be something about which you could speak to our national President at some convenient time. I think it would be awfully useful for people to see who has designed buildings and who has built them. If you were to ask most of the people in the street who designed and built the famous buildings in London, there would be very few who could tell you. I think this is a great blot on the public relations in this industry and if I might ask you to give that some consideration I am quite sure that we on our side of the industry would be delighted to assist you.

May I thank you for giving us the opportunity to receive this award and say that we appreciate it sincerely.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS IN CONNECTION WITH THE R.I.B.A. AWARD FOR DISTINCTION IN TOWN PLANNING

The President: It gives me great pleasure to present two Diplomas of Distinction in Town Planning. The first is to Mr. Anthony Minoprio, M.A., B.Arch., A.M.T.P.I. [*F*]. Before I present this Diploma, I should like to read the citation.

It reads:

'Mr. Anthony Minoprio has been actively engaged on town planning schemes since the war in many parts of England and Wales, but perhaps his greatest achievements in town planning have been done in the Middle East. He has replanned the town of Kuwait with an extension for five residential areas of 6,000 population in each area and the development of seven villages of from 5,000 to 15,000 people. He has replanned the town of Ahmadi with a population of 15,000 and has planned a residential area in Qatar. In Baghdad he has prepared a master plan for the city, redevelopment plans for four old central areas, and plans for the new Government and Civic Centres.

'The planning of such areas calls for study of the people and a knowledge of the climate and local conditions requiring special skill to achieve good results. Mr. Minoprio has shown a sympathetic understanding of these special requirements and the work which is now being carried out will make a great contribution to the development of these areas.'

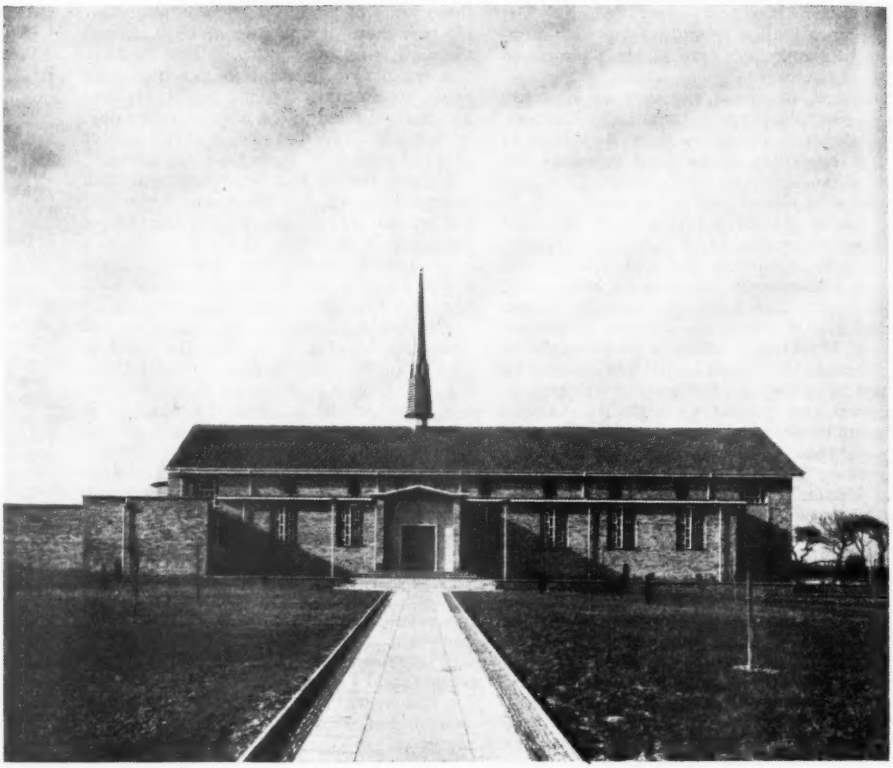
The second is to Mr. J. Lewis Womersley, M.T.P.I. [*F*]. It gives me great pleasure to make this presentation to Mr. Womersley, whom I have known for many years. His citation reads:

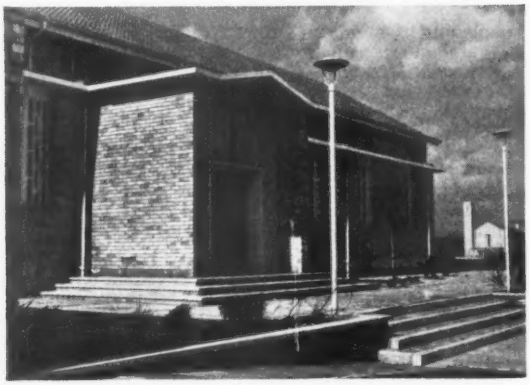
'This award is made to John Lewis Womersley in recognition of his distinguished work in the field of town planning and redevelopment. The new neighbourhood at Dallington Fields, Northampton, which he undertook whilst holding the position of Architect and Planning Officer to the County Borough, was awarded the Housing Medal 1950, by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In 1953 the new neighbourhood Shopping Centre at Kings Heath received the Bronze Medal of the Royal Institute of British Architects. This award was made on the recommendation of the Committee appointed to select the best example of current work in the counties of Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire.

'As City Architect of Sheffield, Mr. Womersley has been responsible for the design of several important projects demanding imaginative treatment on difficult terrain. The schemes at Greenhill and at Hemsworth in the Gleadless Valley, are representative of phased development planned within comprehensive neighbourhoods. On the Park Hill site the present work, forming part of a large clearance and reconstruction scheme in the central area, will initiate a major civic improvement. All this work displays admirable vision and executive ability of a high order.'

Church of St. Cuthbert Peterlee, Co. Durham

Architects: Cordingley and McIntyre
Donald McIntyre [*F*]
Matthew Hayton [*F*]





North Entrance

THIS BUILDING was awarded the R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal for the three-year period ending 31 December 1957 in the area of the Northern Architectural Association.

The church, which was consecrated on 12 December 1957, is situated in the proposed centre of Peterlee.

It is the first part of a scheme which will include a church hall and vicarage. The buildings are planned around a forecourt, the south side being flanked by the church and the east side by the church hall and vicarage. A determining factor in the design of the layout was the mining situation in the area. The church is built in a safe area and the hall and vicarage will be built after 1961 when the site becomes stable.

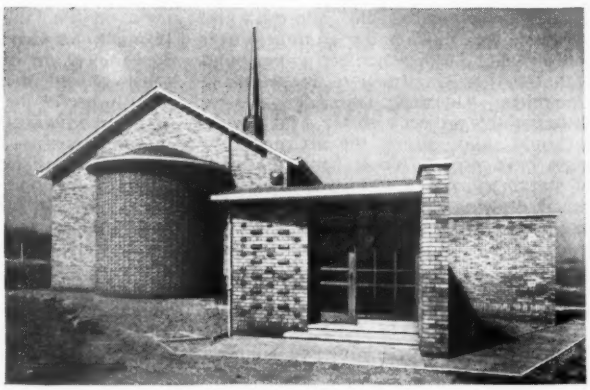
The church is built with a reinforced concrete in situ portal frame with precast concrete purlins, all exposed internally. Externally the frame is covered with warm-grey rustic bricks with raked out joints and the roof is covered with dark-brown sand-faced hand-made tiles. The flat roofs are covered with built-up roofing. The glazing has been carried out in antique glass and the lead glazing to the chancel in tinted Norman Slabs.

The planting of the terrace garden was carried out by the Peterlee Development Corporation who will also maintain the grass forecourt.

The church is decorated in light colours to act as a foil to the rich brown colour of the furnishings. The furnishings throughout were specially designed by the architects and were carried out in afrormosia and sycamore.

The church seats 420 with the choir gallery at the west end seating 40.

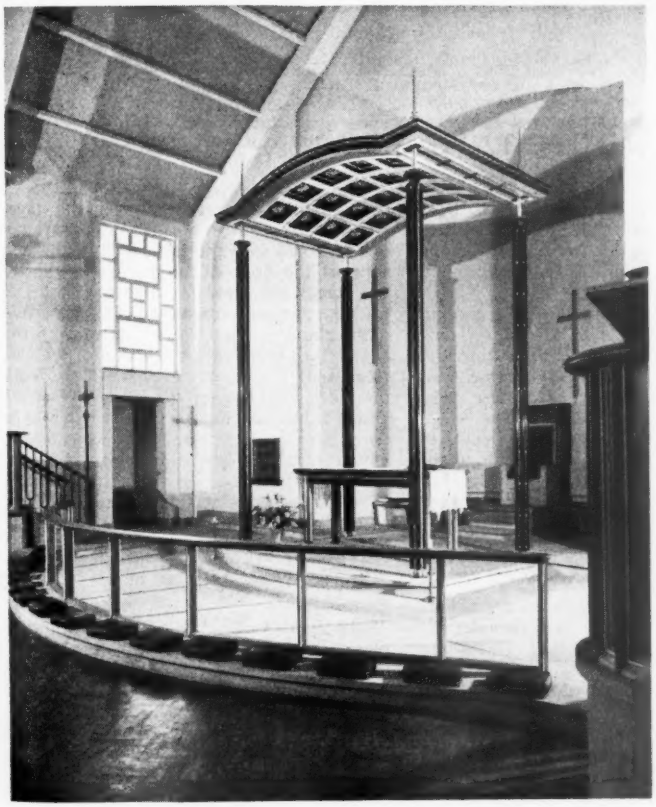
The Quantity Surveyors were Messrs. Turner and Townsend, and the General Contractors were F. W. Goodyear and Son.



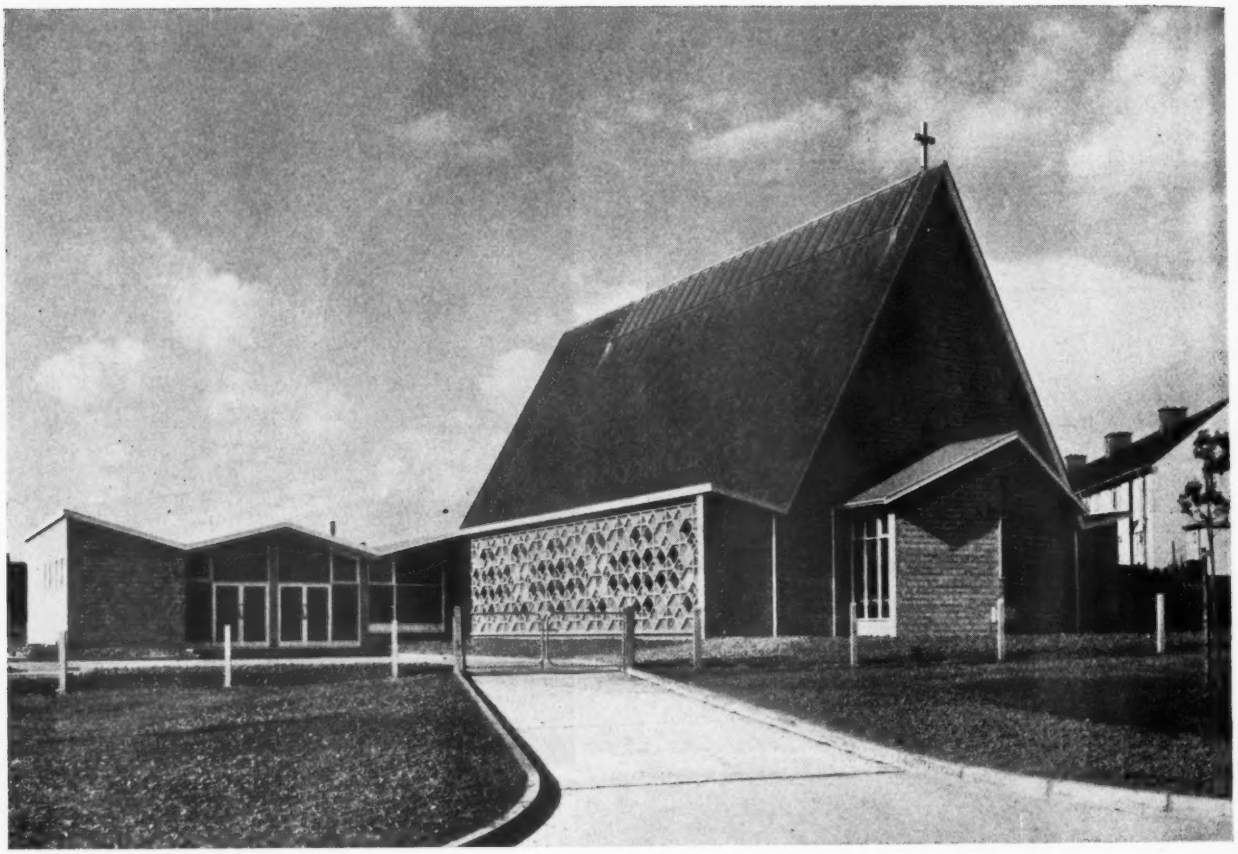
The foundation stone in a surround of cobbles, came from Holy Island (Lindisfarne) where St. Cuthbert was Prior of the Abbey and Bishop in A.D. 685

Below: The chancel showing the altar with baldachino and celebrant's chair in apse

The flèche which houses the electrically controlled bell is constructed of western red cedar which is now weathering to a silver grey and the spire is finished in copper, the whole being carried by a reinforced concrete platform cast in situ with the main frame



The font is in Bixhead Blue stone and stands on a base of yellow Siena marble on black granite paving. The font cover is of polished brass



Castle Hill Congregational Church, Ipswich

Architects:
Johns, Slater and Haward
Martin J. Slater [*F*]
Birkin Haward [*A*]

Consulting Engineer:
Felix J. Samuely

General Contractors:
George A. Kenney & Son Ltd

THIS BUILDING was awarded an R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal for the three-year period ending 31 December 1957 in the area of the Suffolk Association of Architects.

The new church is in the area of a community centre for the Castle Hill Estate which is on the way to completion, and stands on a site sloping from north-east to south-west. In front a wide grass verge stretches down to the road.

The main part of the building consists of a hall 50 ft. by 47 ft., beyond which, at the west end, projects a 15-ft. deep stage. The whole is covered by a steeply pitched folded slab concrete roof with an overall length of 65 ft. To the south of the main hall, at the west end, are the main entrance and vestibule, together with ancillary rooms consisting of a vestry, classroom, kitchen, boiler-room and toilet accommodation. To the north of the main hall, also at the west end, is a second classroom.

The roof is supported on two transverse reinforced concrete frames, one at the extreme east end, the other 15 ft. in from the west end. It spans 50 ft. from the former to the latter frame, over which it is continuous, and then cantilevers for the rest of its length. The cantilever covers the stage. At the extreme west end is another frame, unconnected with the roof, which will help support the floor of an organ loft (above the stage) projected for a later date. The folded concrete slab itself consists of two main planes inclined at 60 degrees to the horizontal, forming a pitched roof with its ridge 31 ft. above the eaves and 40 ft. from the floor. At the eaves, in situ concrete wings cantilever slightly upwards for 7 ft. on either side. Structurally the wings act as a continuation of the folded slab, and serve to reduce the stresses in the main planes.

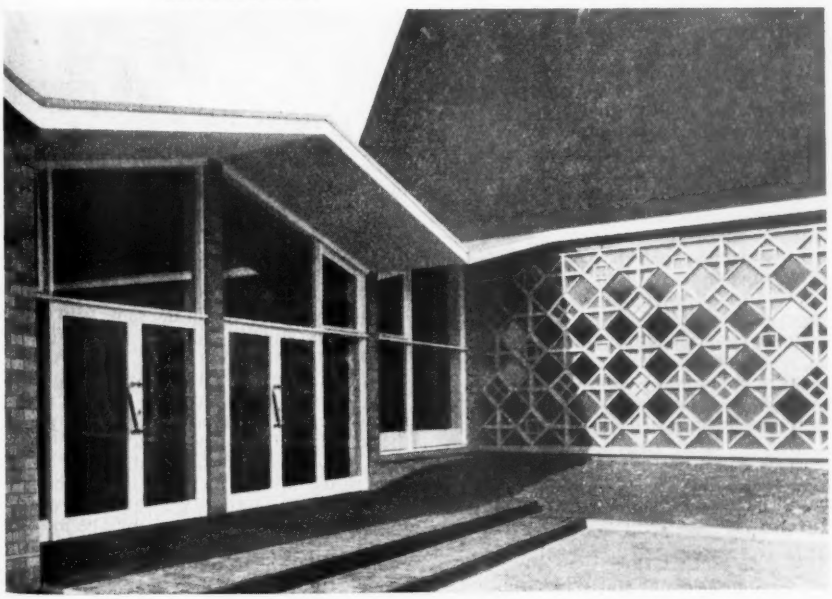
Ancillary rooms have low-pitched in situ concrete roofs also of folded slab construction. The sanctuary has a similar roof, with a rather steeper pitch. All these subsidiary roofs are covered with three layers of roofing felt.

The west wall of the main church is plastered, and the upper part of the gable is lined with acoustic fibrous panels which have slotted holes and are backed with vermiculite. Externally the main gable ends are of light-brown brick. Barge-boards and window frames are painted white; doors, grey.

A special feature of the building is the

The sanctuary extends 10 ft. beyond the main body of the building. The altar cross is in the form of a cruciform window in a concrete frame projecting slightly into the church. The gable panel is painted dark green; structural frames, white; ceiling insulation board, natural; walls of vestibule, yellow

The main entrance



glazed tracery which forms the greater part of the two side walls of the main church. This tracery is formed of precast concrete units, 2 ft. by 2 ft. by 9 in. thick, jointed together by means of slate dowels and mortar joints. The units are cast in three different shapes, erected and inset with coloured and plain glass to form a symmetrical repeated pattern. In all, 250 units are used, together with 1,440 pieces of glass.

A special putty is used to set most of the panes well forward, but not flush with the frame. A small number are set further back in a different plane to obtain relief. The semi-obscured glass is coloured in blue and yellow, and arranged in a symmetrical repeated pattern. The original intention was to use stained glass in all panes but, most unfortunately, lack of funds made this impossible. Instead, oil paint was sprayed on to those panes which were to be coloured, and covered with a clear varnish.

The church is top lit by lights beneath the ridge. The stage has been built at the west end of the church, because it is intended to construct a social hall beyond it at a later date. The stage will eventually form part of the hall, but until then the body of the church itself is used for social functions.

Report of the Committee on Building Legislation in Scotland

Some observations by the R.I.B.A. Committee on By-laws and Building Regulations

THE REPORT of the Committee on Building Legislation in Scotland is the result of three-and-a-half years' work on the part of the Committee, in the course of which it reviewed the whole field of building control. Beginning with a brief historical survey the Report goes on to consider the purpose and scope of building control and the machinery whereby it can, in the opinion of the Committee, best be exercised. Although particularly concerned with building control in Scotland—and much of the Report deals with administration peculiar to that country—the problems confronting the Scottish Committee are common throughout the whole of Great Britain and many of the principles on which the recommendations of the Report are based are of general application.

Interesting though the historical survey with which the Report opens is in itself, we are only concerned here with the conclusion that the Committee draws from a review of the present position. This conclusion is expressed in the Report in a neat piece of metaphor: 'It soon became apparent to us, therefore, that the old patchwork quilt of building law was not only full of holes and frayed at the edges: it only covered part of the bed. We needed little convincing that the time had come for it to be discarded in favour of a full-sized bedcover in contemporary style.' Although in England and Wales we have byelaws, based on the Model issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, that are very much in advance of anything we had formerly, our building law, too, is very much a patchwork quilt and in many respects out of date.

The purpose and scope of building control present some difficult questions. Although building control goes back to a much earlier date, our present system stems from the Public Health Acts of the latter half of last century which, as their title implies, were aimed primarily at safeguarding the health of the public. The public in this context can be taken as meaning the occupants of a building and anyone else who might be in any way affected by its existence. Many provisions of our building legislation today, however, go farther than just that; perhaps only incidentally to ensuring public health and safety (which latter has been consciously added since the earlier Acts came into force), or perhaps with deliberate intention. We can, therefore, ask ourselves whether building control should stop at the barest minimum necessary for health and safety, or whether it is proper that it should go farther and take account of matters that, as a result of changes in our social outlook and in our economic circumstances, are of more importance today than they were a hundred years ago.

To what extent, for instance, should comfort supplement the bare needs of health? The stage at which the loss of heat from a dwelling will create conditions adverse to health is far removed from what would be considered today as a desirable environment for living in. Economics enter the picture here, too. The degree of thermal insulation in the outer structure of a dwelling house necessary to reduce heat loss in order to bring within reasonable bounds the cost of providing adequate warmth for comfort, and to conserve national resources in fuel, is much higher than that needed on the score of health alone. Should these, and other factors of like nature, be taken into account in building control? In other words, should people who erect buildings be compelled to take them into account or should such things be left to their good sense and judgment?

After a careful weighing of the arguments for and against, the Committee came to conclusions which are summarised in the Report thus:

'*Building control should be exercised in the interests of public health and safety, with the national economy as a qualifying consideration.*

It is no function of building control to protect an owner against a builder.

The siting of a building is a matter for planning control.

The preservation of amenity is not a suitable function for building control.

The main purpose of building control is to secure that new buildings are safe and sound when erected and are reasonably durable: and to provide for dealing with buildings which have become a danger to health or safety.'

The Scottish Committee list the following matters which in their view should be the subject of regulation:

(*a*) the preparation of sites;
(*b*) strength and stability;
(*c*) structural fire precautions:
  (i) resistance to the outbreak and spread of fire,
  (ii) means of escape from fire;
(*d*) resistance to moisture;
(*e*) resistance to the transmission of heat;
(*f*) resistance to the transmission of sound;
(*g*) durability;
(*h*) resistance to infestation;
(*i*) drainage;
(*j*) ventilation;
(*k*) day lighting;
(*l*) heating and artificial light sources;
(*m*) equipment, facilities and accommodation;
(*n*) access;
(*o*) prevention of damage and obstruction;

This goes much farther than anything so far done in England and Wales.

Of primary concern just now, when the time to review the Model Building Bye-laws for use in England and Wales is drawing near, is the machinery of building control. The Report of the Scottish Committee has much to say on this subject, which it divides into two parts: 'how to construct the machinery of control and how to make it work'. These the Committee regarded as 'the principal questions for us, since the details of the building code are, we have concluded, for others to decide'. *Uniformity* and *flexibility* were adopted as guiding principles and their detailed examination takes up much of the Report. These qualities have been, and are still, the basis of the R.I.B.A.'s policy with regard to building control and were stressed in the evidence that the Institute submitted to the Scottish Committee.

The Committee found in Scotland a much greater diversity of building control than exists today in England and Wales, so it is not surprising that it found 'the evidence we received was overwhelmingly in favour of a uniform code throughout the country'. The most potent reason given for supporting the evidence is no less true for England and Wales: 'For builders, designers and suppliers of materials who do business in the areas of more than one local authority, the advantages of a uniform code are obvious; but the local builder, too, stands to benefit from standard building requirements. In recent years, building has been much less a product of local crafts and materials, and much more of components which are manufactured and marketed on a national scale. It is possible that the individual provisions of local building requirements may prevent a local builder from taking full advantage of such products.' To ensure the operation of a uniform code throughout the country the Committee proposes that it should be laid down in regulations made by the Secretary of State instead of in bye-laws made by each local authority. It is very true, as the Committee states, that 'the most effective way of achieving a uniform code is by centrally-made regulations', but apart from that there are good reasons, peculiar to Scotland, for the preference. Although these latter reasons may not apply, the application of control in England and Wales in the same way (the regulations still, of course, administered by local authorities) is worth careful consideration. The main advantage of regulations over bye-law control is that uniformity can be achieved simultaneously by the former method, whereas to achieve the same result through the medium of bye-laws would involve a cumbersome process for every local authority to adopt similar bye-laws. Amendments, too, may be introduced simultaneously, whilst requirements could easily and speedily be revised and brought up-to-date when the need to do

so arose and such revision could be brought into effect over the whole country.

Consistency of interpretation of such a national building code is just as important as uniformity of requirements. This problem is examined as it applies to Scotland and the Committee expresses the view that 'a number of our recommendations will collectively help to establish an acceptable degree of uniformity in interpretation'. The Committee recommends that 'A desirable objective would . . . be for all the authorities responsible for laying down requirements which affect structure to consult together and endeavour to codify their requirements, at least in so far as they affect new buildings, and to pay particular attention to reconciling any unnecessary conflicts between their requirements. We think that every effort should be made to publish requirements. We hold strongly to the view that a person designing a new building should be able readily to ascertain in advance standards with which he is expected to comply, preferably by reference to a published Code.' Although they differ somewhat in relative importance, most aspects of the problems exist South of the Border, and the problem should be no more difficult of solution here.

The possibility of expressing requirements in such a way as to give flexibility has received much attention in recent years. It was very much to the fore when the 1952 revision of the Ministry of Housing's Model Bye-laws was being prepared and bye-laws based upon the Model, sympathetically administered, go much farther toward achieving it than former bye-laws ever did. Lack of uniformity in administration, however, can do much to nullify the element of flexibility embodied, not too clearly, perhaps, in some respects, in the Model.

The Scottish Committee makes three principal proposals which it claims would meet the present obstacles to flexibility: the exclusion of all detailed requirements from statutes; the expression of requirements in terms of standards to be achieved in relation to each function the parts of a building has to perform, rather than by rigidly specifying its construction and the materials to be used; and the creation of machinery which would permit the individual treatment of special cases. These proposals may seem simple to put into effect but in fact they are not. The nearer a requirement is related to pure function (and that is the ideal for perfect flexibility), the harder it is to give it any legal precision and the greater becomes the risk of differences in interpretation demanding something different to satisfy one requirement. Satisfactory machinery to permit individual treatment calls for some overriding control such as would permit the relaxation of requirements where these might be more restrictive than is necessary to achieve the objects of building control. Such duplication must, however, be carefully worked out and administered. The Report acknowledges this need for individual treatment in the interests of flexibility and recommends a procedure for allowing requirements to be relaxed in relation to particular proposals.

To sum up, Scotland has shown one way in which uniformity and flexibility can be obtained. Whilst the method advocated by the Scottish Committee is necessarily related to the problem as it appears in Scotland, there is no denying that there is also an urgent need of reforms to reduce to some semblance of order the chaotic state of building control which pertains in England and Wales as well. The aim should be to achieve those same qualities of uniformity and flexibility which have been advocated for Scotland. There seems to be no reason why the two countries, together with the London County Council (the report of whose Advisory Committee on the Control of Construction of Buildings in London has just been published) should not collaborate to devise some way whereby this aim might be realised. In this respect the R.I.B.A. By-laws Committee feel strongly that the concept of control by centrally-made regulations instead of by bye-laws as at present merits further study.

Practice Notes

Edited by Charles Woodward [*A*]

WHAT IS A WINDOW UNDER BYE-LAWS? Joint Submission to the Minister of Housing and Local Government under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 67. The following is the Minister's decision dated 2 September 1958.

1. I am directed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to refer to the joint submission of an issue raised in relation to the proposed erection of dwellings on a building estate for determination under the provisions of Section 67 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

2. The precise point which the Minister is asked to determine is whether the plans of the proposed dwellings are in conformity with the Council's byelaw 80(2).

3. According to the submission of agreed facts the plans show that it is the Company's intention to provide glazed casement doors or French windows in the rear elevation of the dwellings opening from the combined living-dining room to the rear garden. If the casement doors or French windows are included within the definition of 'window' then there is sufficient opening area to comply with byelaw 80(2) but if the casement doors or French windows are excluded then there is not sufficient opening area.

4. The Council contend that byelaws 80 to 83 come under the main heading 'Ventilation of Buildings' and byelaw 80 has a heading 'Windows'. They say that it is important to know that the purpose of byelaw 80 is to ensure adequate ventilation to buildings through windows. The word 'window' is used in byelaw 80 and no special definition of this word is included in the byelaws so, it is submitted, it should be given its ordinary meaning. The *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* defines the word 'window' as meaning an opening in a wall or side of a building to admit light or air or both and to afford a view of what is outside or inside. This shows that the purpose of a window is for ventilation, light and view. The Council also say that the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*, after defining a 'door', shows that its purpose is a means of entrance or exit. They submit that the main purpose of a casement door or French window is to obtain extrance or exit from the room to the garden. During winter months casement doors or French windows are kept closed and they are not used for the purpose of ventilation as are the parts of windows which are made to open. There is no provision in a casement door or French window for a small part of it to be opened. You either have to have the whole open or not. It is only in the summer months, when the weather permits, and at certain hours of the day that casement doors or French windows are left open. It cannot be said that a casement door or French window provides proper ventilation in the same way as a window. They say it is also interesting to note that the definition in the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* of 'French window' is 'a long window opening like a folding door and serving for entrance or exit'. The Council contend that the word 'window' in the byelaw, if construed in an ordinary way, does not include a casement door or a French window, especially when regard is had to the fact that the byelaw is dealing with ventilation.

5. The Company accept the definition of the word 'window' as meaning an opening to admit light or air or both. They contend that a 'French window' falls within this definition. The Company also contend that a word must have the same meaning throughout a set of byelaws unless the contrary is clearly stated. They say that if, therefore, a French window is a 'window' for the purpose of light it must also be a 'window' for the purpose of ventilation if, indeed, it is capable of providing ventilation. The Company draws the attention of the Minister to a decision of Her Majesty's Justices for the Petty Sessional Division of Dorking reported in the JOURNAL of the Royal Institute of British Architects for October 1957. They presume that legal argument was put to the magistrates who ruled that a French window of the type now referred to was a 'window' for the purpose of a similar byelaw. The Company contend that the decision of the magistrates was correct.

6. The Minister has carefully considered the facts and representations submitted.

7. As the Council point out the word 'window' in the Council's byelaw 80(2)

has to be construed without the assistance of any statutory definition. In the Minister's view each structure must be looked at with its purpose in mind. He accepts that a window in the ordinary sense is an opening in a wall or the side of a building to admit light or air or both and to afford a view. The purpose of byelaw 80(2) is to ensure that a means of ventilation is provided and it therefore requires that a window must be so constructed so that it may be opened to the external air. The Minister does not accept the Council's contention that the main purpose of a French window is to obtain entrance or exit to or from a room, although such windows frequently open on to a garden or balcony. He does not think that anything which is a window in the normal sense is any less of a window because it also affords a means of entrance or exit. He feels bound to agree with the arguments of the Company, that glazed casement doors or French windows are 'windows' for the purposes of the byelaw.

8. In the light of the agreed facts the Minister, in pursuance of his powers under Section 67 of the Public Health Act, 1946, therefore determines that the plans of the work are in conformity with the Council's building byelaw 80(2).

(By the courtesy of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.)

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING BILL. The Town and Country Planning Bill, published on 29 October, provides that in future public authorities will pay present-day market values when they buy land under compulsory powers. Where notice to treat is served on the owner after 29 October he will get, in the normal case, the price he could have got in the open market if he had been offering his land for sale.

Market value will take into account the use allowed by the planning authorities, and the use to which the purchasing authority intend to put the land.

The Bill also provides that the owner can claim additional compensation if land is compulsorily bought from him for one purpose and is later (within five years) used for a different purpose which makes it more valuable.

The Bill gives redress to the owner-occupier of a house who wants to move but finds he cannot sell it, or cannot sell at a reasonable price, because a threat of future acquisition by a public authority hangs over it. He will in future be able to call upon the public authority concerned to buy it forthwith.

The Lands Tribunal will settle compensation disputes.

The Bill does not alter the compensation payable when planning permissions are refused.

The Bill implements some recommendations of the Franks Committee which were not incorporated in last session's Tribunals and Inquiries Act. It contains special provisions for appeal to the Courts on points of law against planning decisions; and the Lord Chancellor is given power, after consulting the Council on Tribunals, to make rules of procedure for inquiries.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government have issued an explanatory memorandum of the Bill obtainable at H.M.S.O., price 1*s.* 3*d.* net.

[*Note.* This is an outline of the Bill which may be amended before it becomes an Act.]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1958, LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND. Mr. Henry Brooke, Minister of Housing and Local Government (on 29 October) announced in a written Parliamentary reply the names of five members of the Local Government Commission for England which is to be set up shortly under the Local Government Act, 1958. They are:—chairman: Sir Henry D. Hancock, K.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G. (part-time appointment); deputy, chairman: Michael E. Rowe, C.B.E., Q.C. (full-time appointment); other members: The Hon. Ruth Burton Buckley, J.P. (part-time appointment), Bernard D. Storey, C.B.E. (full-time appointment), E. W. Woodhead, M.A., F.R.Hist.S. (full-time appointment).

The Act allows of the appointment of two further members, and an announcement about these vacancies will be made in due course.

The Commission's task, which is expected to take at least five years, will be to carry out reviews and propose any necessary changes in the major local government structure of the whole of England except Greater London (which is being separately examined by a Royal Commission set up last year under the Chairmanship of Sir Edwin Herbert). They will be able to propose creation of new counties and county boroughs, and extension, amalgamation, or demotion of existing ones, as well as ordinary adjustments of county boundaries. In the five conurbations of Tyneside, West Yorkshire, South-East Lancashire, Merseyside, and the West Midlands they will also have power to propose changes to the county districts, and in the distribution of responsibility for the various local services.

The Commission's report and proposals for each area reviewed will have to be submitted to the Minister, and published so that objections can be lodged, and if necessary heard at a public inquiry.

Where eventually the Minister makes an order giving effect (with or without modifications) to the Commission's proposals for any area, he will have to submit it to Parliament along with the Commission's report.

It is expected that the Commission will spend the remainder of the present year on preparatory work, including the formulation of its initial programme of reviews, and start actual reviews on one or two areas fairly early in the New Year.

No names have yet been given for the Local Government Commission for Wales, but the Minister said in his answer that he hoped to be able to announce these fairly soon.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. This Institute has published a report on Building Contracts of Local Authorities, the latest to appear in the series 'Studies of Administrative Methods'.

A Study Group set up by the Institute examined all stages of the building contracts of local authorities to ascertain where and in what ways current procedures could and should be improved in order to limit the amount of work arising from the scrutiny and settlement of the final accounts. Their findings are recorded in this report. Some of the problems described are well known to those in the building industry, but it is believed that this is the first time that they have been examined specifically in relation to the building work of local authorities.

Among the Group's 35 recommendations are that local authorities should maintain machinery for examining the total effect of the building requirements of individual services and for recommending the priorities to be adopted so that annual programmes can accord with the resources of finance and staff, that all tenders should be for a firm price where it has been possible to plan thoroughly before tenders are invited, and that the checking of the final account should be limited to ensuring its accuracy and should exclude an examination of its technical aspects.

The report is obtainable from the Royal Institute of Public Administration, 76A New Cavendish Street, W.1, price 5*s.*

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS. Pricing Bills of Quantities for Tender Purposes. In the Royal Institution's Journal for November, the Quantity Surveyors Committee have expressed the view that where chartered quantity surveyors are commissioned by contractors to price bills of quantities which have been issued for competitive purposes, that there is no objection in principle to such a practice *provided* that the bills of quantities have not been prepared by the chartered quantity surveyor concerned. In the latter event it would not be in accordance with the best professional practice and might give rise to a position in which the member concerned was in breach of the by-laws.

NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL FOR THE BUILDING INDUSTRY. Holidays with Pay Increases. At its meeting in London on 30 October 1958, the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, accepting a report by the Employers' and Operatives' Federations, decided to place on record the changes set out below in the weekly credits prescribed under the Annual and Public Holidays Agreements. The changes have been formally agreed between all the Employer and Operative Parties to the Holidays Schemes:—

Annual Holidays Scheme. From 6 April 1959—Increase of 6*d.*, the weekly credits thus becoming:—

Male operatives 18 and over—8*s.* per week.

Operatives under 18 and women—6*s.* 6*d.* per week.

Public Holidays Scheme. From 23 March 1959—Increase of 3*d.*, the weekly credits thus becoming:—

Male operatives 18 and over—4*s.* per week.

Operatives under 18 and women—3*s.* 3*d.* per week.

TIME FOR TENDERING. The Southern Counties Consultative Committee of Architects and Builders have amended their recommendation as shown below:

'The committee recommends that *four* weeks is a reasonable time to allow contractors for the submission of a tender, and that this should be regarded as normal, with fourteen days as a minimum period for small jobs, and where there is a very great urgency. Where, however, no Bills of Quantities are supplied, it would be reasonable to allow an appropriate increase in these times for tendering.' (20 October 1958)

[*Note:* The change is from three to four weeks as shown above.]

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT. Move to reduce Advertisement 'Clutter' on Business Premises. Voluntary Code of Standards to be prepared. A further meeting took place on 21 October between Mr. Henry Brooke, Minister of Housing and Local Government, and representatives of industry, commerce, advertising interests and local authority and amenity associations to examine the feasibility of a voluntary code of standards to reduce advertisement 'clutter' on business premises. By clutter is meant displays of advertisements which are excessive and badly sited.

The Minister expressed the hope that a voluntary code would emerge quickly, and would lessen the magnitude of the problem in the country. The administrative burden on local authorities could thereby be greatly reduced, leaving the statutory regulations to cover examples of non-compliance and marginal cases.

The Outdoor Advertising Industry Advisory Committee, led by Lord Luke, said they were confident that member associations would subscribe to an instrument which they themselves had helped to create.

Both local authority associations and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England argued that a code could not replace the existing regulations, which in their view needed tightening.

When the local authority associations made clear that a code would have to be acceptable to both the advertising interests and themselves, the O.A.I.A.C. replied that they would welcome close collaboration.

The Committee undertook to prepare a draft code of standards in consultation with the shopkeepers and other allied interests. There would then be full discussion with technical advisers of the local authority associations. The Committee hoped that by next Whitsuntide the code would have been examined by the local authority associations, amenity organisations and others involved, and would then be shown to the Minister.

Efficiency in the Building Industry

THE SECOND RESIDENTIAL WEEK-END CONFERENCE organised by the Regional Joint Consultative Committee for South Wales was held at the Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl, Glamorgan, on 3–5 October. The chairman was Mr. W. Stephen Thomas [*A*]. Fifty-six members attended.

At the first Conference in 1957, the principal speakers represented in turn the architects, the quantity surveyors and the builders and contributed much to the general appreciation of each other's problems. This year it was decided to concentrate on how best to improve the efficiency of the building industry, and in order to avoid too much introspective self-criticism, speakers from outside the industry were chosen to address the meeting. There were three sessions.

The Present Structure of Trends in the Building Industry. The speaker was Mr. P. S. Newton, F.C.C.S., secretary to a large provincial architect's practice.

Mr. Newton spoke of the need for contract reform; of what to do in the face of the all-in service; of the need for an independent research centre organised on a national basis by the building industry; and on the problems of leadership.

Criticism of Existing Organisation of Management. This was dealt with by Colonel J. R. Marriott, of Rushden, who in 1947, after 35 years in the Indian Army, took over his family firm—a building organisation then employing about 50—and subsequently built it up into an efficient unit of 500 to 600.

Colonel Marriott's name came to the notice of the Committee as the author of a letter to THE TIMES in which he criticised architects for being inefficient. This drew a reply from the President R.I.B.A., who instanced the 1957 Porthcawl Conference among other examples of what the industry was doing about its shortcomings.

Colonel Marriott argued that all sections of the industry, especially builders, should adopt sound business principles. He advocated precise, if necessary ruthless, delegation of responsibility for certain tasks, leaving the administrator free to administrate; careful selection of personnel and payment by results; firm handling of sub-contractors; insistence on agreement for full documentation before signing a contract; a programme draft; and the appointment of a main sub-contractor at the outset. He suggested that the industry should set up a staff college which would give management training as well as forming a research centre.

The Advancement of Efficiency. The speaker for this session was Sir Noel Hall, Principal of the Administrative Staff College, Henley-on-Thames.

Sir Noel dealt with the mental and psychological approach necessary to instil the spirit of efficiency into people and organisations. He said that efficiency in executive positions was not necessarily efficiency in the details of the particular industry and organisation, and advocated the broad view at all times, with the ability to delegate responsibility wisely, and the personal approach to ensure that, once delegated, the task was carried through.

The final session consisted of a Forum—a panel formed from Committee members and guests—to answer written questions submitted by members. The all-in service and the reasons why it was developing attracted the most discussion. Some of the reasons put forward to explain its growth were: that the building owner, the architect, the consultants and sub-contractors were all separately brought together, and that this was not conducive to unity; that architects were not commercially minded in contrast to builders offering all-in service with promises of quick completion, no fee, research and other forms of salesmanship; that repetition had advantages over 'one off' building; that some clients resented the architect's quasi-judicial position; that firms offering all-in service employed highly trained personnel and improved their efficiency by employing the services of business consultants, etc.

The proposals put forward at the Conference have since been discussed by the J.C.C. and have resulted in the following resolutions:

That the National Consultative Committee be invited to explore the idea of a residential college (i) to provide joint courses in organisation and business principles suitable for principals and executives, and (ii) to provide for research in those subjects in relation to the building industry.

That the Regional Consultative Committee examine the possibility of organising through the Welsh College of Advanced Technology joint courses in building management on the lines of a summer school and catering for principals and executives; that a Sub-Committee be appointed for this purpose and that it comprises Messrs. G. N. Row, A. J. Gordon, W. G. Sweet, C. A. Hughes, T. H. Huxley Turner, A. J. Chandler, L. C. Patterson; that the Sub-Committee take into account the question of whether adequate support would be forthcoming.

That the Regional Consultative Committee also be invited to sponsor the formation of a joint club at Cardiff similar to that established at Swansea, particulars of which were given by Mr. Myrddyn Williams, and that the proposals be examined by the Sub-Committee set up to deal with the question of regional joint courses.

That the existing Sub-Committee considering 'all-in' service be invited to take into account the following suggestions made at the Conference:

(i) that there should be a review of the structure of the professions and possibly of the structure of the industry including the professions and contractors;

(ii) that efficiency by existing units was imperative;

(iii) that a greater spirit of co-operation between units in the three branches of the industry was essential to achieve the common objective of building quickly and economically;

(iv) that the importance of proper planning needed to be kept in mind.

Architecture Anonymous

by Ronald Bradbury, Ph.D., A.M.T.P.I. [*F*]

IT IS PROBABLY AS TRUE as any generalisation can be that in the previous historical styles of architecture the great architects disclosed their identity by a very personal quality of design in the character and treatment of their façades. They signed their buildings with their own originality just as surely as if their names had been carved on the plinth. No other clue than the stamp of their own original genius was needed to mark out their buildings as their own. Even where their names were obscure or indeed unknown, as was so often the case in the dark ages of the early Gothic period, nevertheless the existence of an individual designer could be established in widely different places merely by a careful scrutiny of the resultant buildings. Somehow or other their identities shine through! Sometimes the personality of the designer was revealed by the very massing of his building, sometimes by the use of an original motif, but more often merely by a peculiar personal quality in the more intimate details of the façade. The handling of some particular piece of ornamentation added at the whim of the architect, or the very quality of the detail itself served as an architectural signature. The wider use of applied decoration to structural forms gave scope for very personal design qualities to be expressed. No one who has seen and studied one building by Wren or one interior by Adam can fail ever again to recognise the master's touch. Nearer still to our time the architectural handwriting of Shaw, Voysey, Rennie Mackintosh or Lutyens is peculiar and specific. Great architects were somehow able to express the greatness of their architectural personalities in a myriad different ways in their works, even as the great painters signed their names on their canvases just as surely by the structure of their compositions and the very pattern of their brush strokes, as by their scrawled and often undecipherable signatures.

Do we find it so easy nowadays to identify the works of the great contemporary masters of our profession? Of course we can immediately classify any building we see as being by the hand of a good 'modern' architect, or by the hand of a mere practitioner of our art. All great buildings in any style have a thoroughbred quality and an inevitability or 'rightness' which is unfailingly recognisable. Under any conditions and in any age quality always tells! But can we immediately appreciate that a new building which we see itself or in illustrations is by the hand of Master Architect A and not by Master Architects B and C? As we leaf through the current technical journals of the glossier kind can we unfailingly single out, without reading the captions, who has done what? The ruthlessness and simple geometry of modern design surely make it increasingly difficult to do just that. The all-glass façade of curtain-walling with its simple modular repetitiveness or, equally, the familiar honeycomb pattern which develops out of the expression of the structural frame both vertically and horizontally, allied in each case to the almost unanimous acceptance of the square rather than the Golden Section as the basis of façade patterning, gives to all 'normal use' buildings a sameness of expression by which the individuality of the designer is increasingly submerged.

Here, perhaps, I should explain what I mean by 'normal use' buildings. I intend this term to embrace all rectangular slab blocks, of two or more storeys in height, designed for such purposes as class-rooms, offices, dwellings, laboratories, or indeed any of the hundred-and-one purposes for which a series of apartments of constant storey height are required and which are either single- or double-banked alongside a communications corridor.

I feel that here I should qualify what I have said, or what I hope to continue to say, by explaining that the problems of anonymity do not face to nearly the same extent those architects who are fortunate enough to be entrusted with the design of buildings which, by the very nature of the differing volumes of space to be enclosed within the building, naturally result in shapes or a collection of shapes which are not basically slab-like in character. When buildings consist of a collection of large and small apartments, giving possibilities of interesting solutions in section and in massing, there is much more scope for individuality of design and therefore for the personality of the great designer to shine out through the solution which he chooses to adopt. For buildings of this kind, there is surely justification to suppose that we are as yet only on the fringes of exciting new design developments! The more forward-thinking designers prove to us that the challenge of applying new structural techniques in exciting new ways to the various design programmes with which they are called upon to deal is one which they are perfectly capable of accepting. The winning design in the Sydney Opera House competition is one case in point and of course there are many other schemes built or proposed which are exhilaratingly exciting and bear the true stamp of design originality. Strangely enough, too, the smaller design problems can be and are being tackled in new and imaginative ways. The dilemma which I hope this article clarifies appears to be experienced more forcibly in the range of what may be called the 'normal use' or 'bread and butter' jobs which constitute and will, of course, continue to constitute a very considerable proportion of the architectural work which is entrusted to the profession.

With the very big and important proviso made in the preceding paragraph, can we not agree that there is some germ of truth, so far as 'normal use' buildings are concerned, in the statement that gone or going is the individual design quality which in almost every other style has clearly set apart the work of the master from that of his imitators? It seems as if everyone is content to use a set of architectural stencils, and the days of individual architectural handwriting are no more. Where ornamentation is applied it is usually confined to some nodal point on the façade and this, more often than not, is the work of another mind in an allied profession, so that its presence gives no clue to the identity of the architect, apart from the satisfactoriness or otherwise of its position and weight.

Every new style is said to contain within it the seeds of its own decay. Throughout history, the great architectural styles have sprouted, blossomed and declined, sometimes over a period of centuries, and at other times in the span of a single lifetime. New techniques of construction, new motifs and new social needs have been adopted by the pioneer minds of the profession, have been exploited by their imitators, and, after developing to full maturity, their initial impetus having waned either through changes in social circumstances or because they were in any case played out, the style has degenerated into over-elaboration or sterile repetition. Each style has, as it were, its Doric, Ionic and Corinthian phases, during which initial vigour grows to mature fulfilment and then declines to senility, to be forced to give way to some new and more vigorous approach. Living movements, no less than living organisms, experience their own life-cycle.

The present period is in some ways unique. The avowed aim is simplification. The elimination of lines on the façade and the enthusiasm for modular repetition poses the problem of how simple can one get? What is the end to be?

At any one time in any one country there are probably only a very small number, to be counted on one or two hands at the most, of really original architectural minds capable of giving an entirely new expression to the façades of the buildings which they produce. The majority of the members of our profession must perforce be content to learn from these masters and to adapt the new ideas which they create from time to time as best they can to the everyday problems which face them in their offices. Most of us who practise architecture, if we are honest, must admit that we are incapable of thinking of anything really new by way of design, and we must be content, therefore, to echo and apply in our own work the design stimulus which the few outstanding original designers open up for us. May we not sense the increasing volume of frustration and boredom with façades by the yard? Is it too much to hope that, ere long, some of the pioneer spirits in our profession will give us a lead which will open the way to new façade treatments for 'normal use' buildings less boring and repetitive than those embraced within the current repertoire? Who knows, perhaps one of these pure spirits will be bold enough to rediscover the wall, with new kinds of holes punched into it, and thereby will influence

architectural taste sufficiently to open up for us a new vista of exploration and a new series of patterns which we can accept and which will once again make possible the use of those materials, whether traditional or man-made, which have so much to commend them for their finish, appearance, weathering qualities and economy of maintenance, as well as re-introducing the possibility of expressing architectural handwriting in the design of 'normal use' buildings.

Book Reviews

Mixed Blessing. The Motor in Britain, by *C. D. Buchanan.* 10 in. xi + 221 pp. incl. illus. + 47 pls. Leonard Hill, 1958. £1 10*s.*

The arresting cartoon on the jacket of this book gives one a little idea of its contents; that of a carnivorous motor car, devouring everything before it—towns and townsfolk alike. Indeed, although it does deal with the rapacious appetite of the motor vehicle (268,000 accidents yearly, costing £155,000,000 per annum), it is extremely enlightening and provides a comprehensive survey of traffic problems in this country.

The author's purpose has been to trace the development of the motor vehicle in relation to its dominant influence on the social and economic life of this country, and it is the first authoritative review of the impact of the motor vehicle on our society. The scope of the book covers an extraordinarily wide field, from motor cycles to caravanning, foreign travel to traffic restrictions, concluding with town traffic problems. Although some of this may seem slightly irrelevant, one must not gather that this book is at all dull: it is well illustrated, and contains some excellent photographs of new and old. Who would think that the origins of some of our principal roads had their tracks laid in the Ice Age, created by nomadic tribes following the retreating glaciers—or would they? I should have said that there was more than a grain of truth when Chesterton wrote the poem—

> 'Before the Roman came to Rye or out to Severn strode,
> The rolling English drunkard made the rolling English road.'*

At any rate, Mr. Buchanan must have had 'tongue in cheek' when he collected for reproduction some of *Punch*'s 1922 cartoons.

As one who has travelled extensively on the roads of Europe, I find it disappointing not to see more space devoted to a comparison with the continental motorways, for it is essential to travel over Europe by helicopter in order to appreciate how some of the difficulties connected with heavy traffic flows are dealt with, particularly on the German autobahns and the Italian autostradas, and I can find no reference to the successful experiment carried out in Brussels as a solution to their traffic problems by the construction of an elevated motorway across the city. Although the author refers briefly to toll roads and states that the motoring organisations here do not favour any further attempt to extract money from the motorist, the success of this system in Germany and Italy proves that the motorist is willing to pay a little extra in order to avoid infuriating delays due to congestion. Reference is made to the fact that 'the roads of Britain are what they are' due to lack of finance, but surely if this method is so successful in other countries it deserves more exploration here.

Mr. Buchanan draws an interesting comparison between the American motor express way and its similarity with railway design, and it is tragic in the extreme when one considers the tremendous achievements carried out by our railway engineers in the 19th century, and yet, not until comparatively recently was any real attempt made to develop our antiquated road system. We fail to put into practice the results of our experience; e.g. the Road Board (1909) refused permission for the Cromwell road extension—carried out half a century later.

In a chapter devoted to accidents and congestion, Mr. Buchanan aptly calls this 'Clash and Friction', and while he produces tables showing the cost of accidents to the country at large, no figures are forthcoming which indicate the financial losses incurred daily due to the appalling traffic congestion suffered in our industrial centres. It has often been said that the railways do not transport as much as they could, and this is surprisingly confirmed by the author's comparison of freight carried by road with that carried by the railways. These startling figures show that even in 1952 road traffic alone conveyed 900 million tons as against rail traffic of 300 million tons. Obviously there must be something seriously wrong with our economy.

In the section dealing with the problems of town traffic are reproduced some excellent photographs and diagrams indicating various reconstruction proposals in some of our principal cities. It is regrettable that he has not devoted more space to the multi-storey garage as a partial solution to parking problems, although this section of the book is of particular interest to architects.

The author, however, concludes on a somewhat pessimistic note to the effect that there is no simple remedy to the problems brought about by the increase in motor traffic, and shows that there are many considerations to be borne in mind other than financial. Mr. Buchanan has succeeded in focusing a spotlight on our complex traffic problems, and the motoring organisations would do well to consider distributing a complimentary copy of this book to every M.P. in the country.

F. MYLES-WHITE [*A*]

* G. K. Chesterton—*Collected Poems,* 1927 Edition.

Romanesque Bronzes, Church Portals in Mediaeval Europe, by *Hermann Leisinger.* 13 in. (14) pp. + 160 pls. Phoenix House. 1958. £3 3*s.*

This is primarily a picture book, showing in detail sixteen great Romanesque bronze doors from Russia, Poland, Germany and Italy, all executed between 1015 and 1186. It is fortunate that bronze sculpture of this nature, which often tends to be more difficult to study on the spot with leisure and concentration than other forms of decorative art, such as murals or stained glass, can be much more faithfully recorded in photographs. The author has taken full advantage of this, and gives in fact a better view of the upper reliefs of lofty doors such as those of S. Zeno in Verona, with forty-eight exquisite panels, than can possibly be achieved from the Piazza itself.

Informative notes and descriptive index are included.

R. E. E.

Acoustics for the Architect, by *Harold Burris-Meyer* and *Lewis Goodfriend.* 10½ in. 130 pp. incl. illus. Chapman & Hall. 1957. £4

How much does an architect require to know of such borderline technical subjects as acoustics and what kind of book will be of most value to him for reference? There must be many opinions about the answers to these questions and before going into how the authors of this book have answered them, here are some views on the subject.

First, an architect cannot dismiss the subject from his thoughts on the grounds that it is adding unnecessarily to his already over-burdened capacity for technical knowledge, and that in any event if he gets faced with a really sticky acoustic problem he can always call in a consultant. The fact that the buildings we erect continue to give some kind of service long after the conditions in which they were designed have become obsolete is no reason for ignoring present-day circumstances, and even less so for not attempting to make an intelligent guess as to the needs of tomorrow. It may well be that architects must call in a specialist to deal with a particular aspect of design in detail, the necessary complete knowledge of which he could not be expected to acquire. But if he is to operate as he should in the capacity of a balancing and guiding critic on *all* the technical aspects of design then he must have some background on which to base his decisions. To give a practical example, supposing he has to decide between two types of partition wall, one giving an average sound insulation of 30dB at a certain cost and another giving 35dB at twice the cost, he must have some clear idea as to whether 30 or 35 dB insulation will suit his clients' needs and so decide if the extra 5dB of insulation is worth the extra money.

It cannot be said that the architect will find real help in answering this kind of question in *Acoustics for the Architect.* The data given on sound insulation, for example, appears to be based entirely on laboratory measurements and does not take into

account the hard fact that when tested constructions (particularly in the higher insulation range) are put into practical buildings the values obtained can be anything up to 10 dB lower than the laboratory figure due to indirect transmission or other unforeseen causes. Quite apart from this the insulation values are quoted for a frequency range of 125 to 4,000 c/s which will give a decidedly higher rating than if the measurements are made over the range of 100 to 3,200 c/s which is internationally agreed and is accepted in this country. Another misleading feature is the allocation of sound insulation values to a list of materials, such as brickwork, plaster, etc., with the implication that these values will be obtained however the material is used. It does not need very much experience in this field to know that the method of use of a material can have a very great influence on its performance as a sound insulator. For example, double walls of plastered hollow clay blocks have been found to give a higher insulation when bonded to a surrounding concrete frame than when isolated from it by cork or other resilient material. On the other hand there are cases where resilient materials inserted at the edges of partitions may raise the insulation value.

The cardinal points of room acoustics are certainly dealt with, although it is possible to criticise the book on the score that insufficient information is given about the day-to-day problems of the average architect, such as a small village hall, or the assembly hall of a school, as compared with ambitious schemes such as a concert auditorium for 4,000 which so rarely come our way. The data given for sound absorption coefficients varies from values giving an altogether false impression of the accuracy to be expected from practical design (values to three places of decimals) to ones covering such a large range, e.g. ·05 to ·2, that they become practically useless as a guide if any considerable area of the material has to be taken into account.

One chapter deals with 'surveys, computations, and tests'. Whether this is material which can be assimilated by the architect is open to doubt. but there is no question that some of the recommendations which may be practical in the U.S.A. where sound measuring instruments are more widely used, are not of much value in this country. The practice of sound analysis in the degree of detail required to follow the design methods advocated is very rare, and certainly is a matter which could confidently be left only to an experienced acoustic consultant.

Curiously, in spite of this apparent strength on the 'instrumentation' aspects of the subject, the chapter of 'Electronic Devices' fails to give any detailed information on the use of delayed sound systems for high quality speech reinforcement, or even to mention line source (column) loudspeakers which have proved invaluable in a number of difficult problems. The authors also recommend that for rooms in which reproduced sound will be used 'normal acoustic design' is required. This approach is deprecated because it can lead to considerable difficulty for the sound amplification engineers. When sound is always to be amplified it is best to make the room as nearly acoustically 'dead' as possible, because it is no longer an 'auditorium' in the accepted sense, but rather a last link in the electro-acoustic chain and needs to have no positive acoustic character. This explains why it is so difficult to get satisfactory sound amplification in buildings with long reverberation, such as churches and cathedrals.

Whether an architect needs a 120-page book to give him the information he wants on acoustics or not is arguable, but if he does, then it is doubted if this is one to do it.

H. R. HUMPHREYS [*A*]

The Perspectivist, by *R. Myerscough-Walker*. 10 in. xiv + 266 pp. incl. illus. (some coloured). Pitman. 1958.

This book is an intensely personal one, and as such it is not easily classified; it is easier to say what it is *not*. It is not a technical textbook for would-be perspectivists, though it offers them much sound advice and encouragement towards original experiment; the geometry of perspective 'does not interest' the author, and the chapters on rendering and media describe and illustrate chiefly his own highly individual methods. It is not a history of perspective drawing; except for Farey and Harvey, and for an excellent selection of 'press' drawings, there is little or nothing of the work of recent perspectivists; even Walcot is missing. It is perhaps nearest to being autobiography, and taken as such it makes very entertaining reading. There are for instance the problems of making perspectives in a gamekeeper's cottage two miles from the nearest road:

'The drawing board (the top of a public-bar counter) is again 6 ft. by 3 ft. and hinged to the window sill. Thus it can be lowered flat against the wall or suspended at any angle from vertical to horizontal by means of ropes attached to the ceiling . . . the criticism that the left-hand rope interferes with the easy manipulation of the T-square is countered by the simple device of propping up that corner of the board with a stool if necessary.'

The author makes a refreshingly new approach to techniques and the choice of media (water colour is 'out'), but the student seeking guidance may be a little bewildered by the range of materials and methods he is invited to try: the choice of supports includes, apart from paper, linen, canvas, laminated plastics, hardboard, softboard, strawboard, cardboard, aluminium, copper, slate, plaster board and perspex—'sheet iron is best if it is "charcoal iron" rather than "coke iron" which rusts easily'. The would-be perspectivist is advised to make his own frames and mounts, to try lithography (proofing his various stones himself), etching and engraving, for perspectives; to play with a camera and develop his own plates; to lay down a gelatine bed for making his own true-to-scale prints; to grind his own colours ('assemble a laboratory of chemicals'), and to make even his own pastels. 'Cut down trees, dig gardens, make tables, spin wool, weave fabrics, throw pottery, bind books' —it sounds a delightful way of life, but we do not wonder that the author considers £5,000 a year the practical maximum income for a perspectivist.

L. W.

Sources of Art Nouveau, by *Stephan Tschudi Madsen*. 10½ in. 488 pp. incl. illus. Oslo: H. Aschehoug. 1956. £6 10*s*.

The literature of Art Nouveau is extensive, but very widely dispersed. The outstanding merit of this book is that it offers the first truly comprehensive source of reference to this many-sided movement which in varying degrees influenced all the visual arts and crafts in certain Western countries, and nowhere more than in England, where its curious ramifications and survivals are fascinating to study. Two other valuable assets of Dr. Madsen's important and painstaking work are the very full bibliography and his exceptionally interesting choice of illustrations, many of which I cannot recall having seen before. The text is in excellent English.

J. C. P.

Architecture you and me, by *S. Giedion*. 8½ in. viii + 221 pp. incl. illus. + 38 pls. Cambridge. Harvard U.P. and London: O.U.P. 1958. £1 10s.

This small book is a collection of lectures, papers and articles interspersed with marginalia to give continuity. Written between 1937 and 1957, they cover a wide range of subjects grouped under six headings: 'On the ruling taste', 'On monumentality', 'On the co-operation of architect, painter and sculptor', 'On the formation of the architect', 'On the renewal of the human habitat' and 'On the demand for imagination'.

The major part of the book amounts to a stimulating running commentary on the growth of the modern movement including C.I.A.M. but, to those who know their recent architectural history, there is little that is new.

In several of the later articles apparently analogous architectural forms are regarded as significant coincidences and provide the basis for powerful and terrible generalisations which include the International Style, Fate, the Open Hand, Modulor, Unité d'Habitation, Social Imagination, Monumentality, the Core, and the New Regional Approach. This crop of weeds threatens to conceal that body of ideas, rightly christened L'Esprit Nouveau, which inspired the best architects of the 'twenties and 'thirties. If the new architecture is to develop with integrity, it is important for practising architects to remind themselves occasionally of some of the original sources: Morris, Sullivan, Lethaby, Wright, Ozenfant, P. Jeanneret, Le Corbusier,

Mondriaan. They must recall the broad strategy and basic tenets of the modern movement and not be blinded and confused by too many Marginalia.

For, as is said in the Foreword, 'let us not deceive ourselves! Despite all, the basic situation remains at a rather low level. The prolific scaleless sprawl of urban growth and the banal architecture of rebuilt inner areas bequeath a heavy burden to posterity. There are few glimpses of light; in general there are only further chaos and stillborn buildings.'

BRUCE MARTIN [*A*]

Stones of Llandaff Cathedral, by *F. J. North*. 9 in. xvii + 122 pp. incl. illus. + front. + 10 pls. Cardiff: University of Wales Press. 1957. 15*s*.

Dr. North is an eminent geologist who has for long interested himself in tracing the architectural history of a building by scientific examination. An architect tends to look at the stonework of a church, mansion or castle in a somewhat general manner, and would be surprised at a suggestion that hundreds of stones in various portions of the building should be studied with the aid of a microscope. Yet such a study might well be the beginning of a great adventure, possibly leading to important discoveries, such as those made by Dr. North at Llandaff Cathedral. Yes, Llandaff Cathedral still miraculously survives after grievous bodily wounds inflicted time and time again by man's neglect in peace and by his destruction in war. Built on one of the earliest Christian sites in Britain, the present Cathedral has appreciable gaps in its architectural history, thus making it an ideal subject for rewarding research by Dr. North.

A first impression of the book might well be one of disappointment in the poor quality of the paper and the somewhat humble presentation. But it is important to point out that proceeds from the publication are being donated as a generous contribution towards the maintenance of the Cathedral structure.

The researches described in the book can be divided into three main sections:—(*a*) suggestions as to why the Cathedral was built on its present site; (*b*) the geological formation of the stones used in the building of the Cathedral; (*c*) the history of each portion of the fabric as told by its stonework.

The reading is of mostly local interest, but there is much to occupy the minds of architects who care to explore and test the main principles involved. Where and when were the stones obtained; why were they used where they now are, and are they in their original position in the building? These and many other questions can often be answered with the help of geology. Dr. North has filled in some of the gaps in the history of Llandaff Cathedral, and it may well be that a similar approach to the mysteries of certain other buildings with inadequate record would be equally rewarding.

HARMAN A. BOWEN [*A*]

Decorative Wrought Ironwork in Great Britain, by *Raymond Lister*. 8¾ in. xii + 265 pp. incl. illus. + 28 pls. G. Bell. 1957. £1 15*s*.

Mr. Lister deals with the raw material, technique, design (basic decorations), assembly, finish and preservation of the material in a way that can be compared to Stephenson *The Din of a Smithy* (but without conveying so strongly the personality of its author). The section on manipulation (which is illustrated) endeavours under 'technique' to explain terms like 'swage' (verb) and 'swage block' (noun) which, associated together in the dictionary, are by no means the identical thing in different parts of speech. He adds, for architects concerned with performance when it can be defined in terms of quality, eight points on specifying ironwork.

He does not deal (except incidentally in his examination of examples of architectural ironwork) with the properties of the various materials: cast iron, copper and brass occasionally found in conjunction with wrought iron—but with the influence of design considerations, traditionalist and modern, on contemporary work. As economy of production and shortage of skilled labour will forbid a repetition of the effort made during the Gothic Revival to sustain the craft, he is willing to see experiments made in material and subdivision of labour, one of which is illustrated in plate 246.

What Mr. Lister has to say, prejudiced as it is, about conditions and the future prospects of the craft is not encouraging. Surely the same economic considerations apply both to the established firm and to the individual? Where units of production are small and both materials and labour relatively expensive (5 or 6 cwt. of cast iron will take about £30–£40 to work up), there will be no incentive to quality work, unless there is some idea of costing, and the educative work of the Rural Industries Bureau in this respect might have been acknowledged.

The book has an ample Bibliography, a Glossary and is illustrated by photographic plates grouped at intervals and with line drawings of moderate quality set in the text. The chapter on domestic ironwork has illustrations which can hardly be intended for the collector and include certain material properly belonging elsewhere.

CECIL J. SEARLE [*A*]

Medieval England: An Aerial Survey, by *M. W. Beresford* and *J. K. S. St. Joseph*. 11 in. xiv + 247 pp. incl. illus. Cambridge University Press. 1958. £2 5*s*.

Air survey as a means of illustrating ground features has grown in popularity since O. G. S. Crawford's *Air Survey and archaeology;* recently there have been *Castles in the air*, with notes by S. Douglas Simpson (1949) and *Monastic sites* (1952), the first volume in the series to which the present work belongs. This, however, is a more comprehensive and exciting departure: it surveys practically all human habitation sites of medieval origin. Beginning with fields and cultivation methods, it deals exhaustively with villages, including the now growing subject of disappearing villages; then towns are dealt with according to their types (somewhat as in E. Clive Rouse's *Old towns of England*, 1948), including a chapter on planned towns to Edward I. The air views, sometimes with outline plans (usually placed the same way up for comparison) or plans in deeds to show development, make an absorbing study, whether one knows the places or not—of villages like Corfe and Warkworth, of towns like Chichester, Totnes, Burford, and York. The last section is on roads, bridges, and industrial features. There is a distribution map and an index of places though not of subjects, and production is good. The book will be of interest and importance to archaeologists, architectural historians, and planners.

H. V. M. R.

Home Building Ideas, by *Laurie Wale*. 11¼ in. 168 pp. incl. illus. Cape Town. Purnell and Sons (S.A.). No date. £2 5*s*.

Books like the *Modern House* by F. R. S. Yorke and *New Houses* by H. Dalton Clifford to mention but two, help to introduce the layman to both houses and the architects responsible for their design. Mr. Wale's book comes under this general category. It amounts to a collection of features from the journal ARCHITECT AND BUILDER of South Africa and illustrates 22 houses in that area and a trout stream.

On the bright side this publication is well laid out and printed, with the right amount of text to explain the photographs and drawings. The buildings are illustrated by internal and external views, plans and sections.

On the shady side, which may not be observed by the layman, there is an oversufficiency of clichés—we have not been spared those 'peninsula' fireplaces which seldom work without considerable mechanical encouragement, and the 'dream house' (clients'description) where, to get to the second bedroom one has to go through the first bedroom *and* the bathroom.

This is in fact a picture book of houses for the layman in Southern Africa looking for ideas and an architect. If perused by students—then please only through dark glasses!

F. S. ALEXANDER [*A*]

Correspondence

PROPOSED COMPETITION FOR HOUSE DESIGNS

The Editor, R.I.B.A. Journal

Dear Sir,—After reading in the DAILY TELEGRAPH that the Royal Institute are contemplating the promotion of a competition for medium-sized houses—the thirty selected designs to be offered to the building owner and builders at £15 apiece—I felt like G.K.C. and cried 'Will someone lead me to a pub?' Moreover, I went to one and after a modest pint of beer went home to bed.

After ruminating awhile on this announcement, I dropped off into an uneasy doze. Now whether it was the pint of beer, or the article in question, I don't know, but I woke up in a cold sweat. As a rule the effect of a pint of beer is salubrious, so it must have been the announcement, as I don't usually suffer from nightmares.

I had dreamt that I was looking in the display window of a local newspaper where was displayed a special supplement, the leaves of which turned over automatically every minute or so. They seemed to be practically identical in subject.

In the centre was the photograph of a medium-sized house in the contemporary manner—you know, part stone, interrupted with a slab of cedar vertical boarding, nearly flat roof, large areas of glass without glazing bars and a massive stone battered chimney with one pot on it—*quid plura?*

Beneath was the caption 'Come and see this house, designed by the best brains in the country. No architect's fees to frighten you; we have paid them. Compare it with what you would have to pay your own architect; you will save £150 or more, and we pay all road charges. You can buy it by our own special endowment policy spread over twenty or twenty-five years, and if you die beforehand the house is yours without further payment'.

Around this central feature were various other advertisements—Lighting by Misdirection & Co., Roofing by Snowtrap Ltd., Plastering by Limeless & Co. Ltd., Decorations by Slapiton & Clear'.

Looking more closely I eventually saw in very small type—'This house was the work of Messrs. Prosperous, Sitback & Grabitall, F.F.F.R.I.B.A., whose design was premiated by the Royal Institute of British Architects'.

Well, it was difficult to get to sleep again after that, and at breakfast my wife said, 'What makes you so glum this morning?' I could only say, 'Those whom the gods wish to destroy, they first make mad'. She said, 'Whatever do you mean by that?' I said, 'Ichabod'. She said, 'You are going crackers'. I said, 'What have I just said?'

Yours faithfully,

R. S. CAVE [*L*]

Review of Films

The reviews cover only a few of the films seen. A complete list is available from the R.I.B.A. Public Relations Department.

The country of origin and date of release are given first. The film is in monochrome unless otherwise stated. The sizes (35 *mm. and* 16 *mm.*) *are given. Sound films are marked 'sd', and silent 'si'. The running time is given in minutes.*

(F) *indicates free distribution.*

(H) *indicates that a hiring fee is payable.*

House Foundations on Shrinkable Clay—Methods and Costs, Britain 1957 (F).

Summary: A comparison of different types of foundations which give protection against the cracking of houses due to the movements of shrinkable clay soils. The methods of construction are shown and also the breakdown of their costs by diagram. It was made by the Building Research Station.

Appraisal: An excellent film to record developments in foundation techniques. It conveys the information clearly and concisely and is valuable for teaching. The costs are clearly explained by diagrams which would be even more informative if some indication were given of the size of contract to which the figures apply and whether the same order of difference obtains in varying contracts. The pace and clarity are excellent and the balance good. (The film should not be confused with the earlier B.R.S. film 'Building on Shrinkable Clay'.) Recommended for architectural students, building students and general architectural audiences.

16 sd. colour, 24 min. Film Library, Ministry of Works, Abell House, John Islip Street, London, S.W.1.

Calder Hall. Britain 1955 (H).

Summary: An account of the construction of Britain's first atomic power station. Various stages of the work are shown from the preparation of the site in 1953 to 1955 when the power station was three-quarters completed. It was made for the Atomic Energy Authority.

Appraisal: Considering the potentialities of the subject this is a disappointing and unimaginative film. It is neither technically instructive nor popularly informative, but in view of the importance of Calder Hall as a structure it is of general interest to architects. The continuity of the commentary is not matched by the sequences in the photography and the poor cutting confuses the processes of construction. Less dramatisation and more factual information would have been an advantage. Suitable for schools (post G.C.E.), architectural students, building students and general architectural audiences.

16 sd. colour, 30 min. Central Film Library, Government Building, Bromyard Avenue, London, W.3.

The Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Italy (H).

Summary: The film shows the frescoes by Michelangelo on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican at Rome. It is directed by Pietro Francisci.

Appraisal: An inadequate film on a superb subject. The commentary is trite and the sound unsuitable and distracting: the film is too short to do justice to the paintings. It would have gained by the use of colour and also by showing the ceiling in relation to the architecture and the details in relation to the whole. Of interest to schools (post G.C.E.), architectural students, art students and general architectural audiences.

16 sd., 10 min. British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

How to Build an Igloo. Canada 1949 (H).

Summary: The film shows the method of building a snow house—the selection of the site, the cutting and use of snow blocks, the spiral construction and the final plugging of the cracks.

Appraisal: An excellent film indicating basic structural principles and recording the building of an igloo. It is clearly explained and very good use is made of diagrams. Recommended for architectural students, general architectural audiences and building students. Suitable for schools.

16 sd. colour, 11 min. Central Film Library, Government Building, Bromyard Avenue, W.3.

The Stanlow Story. Britain (F).

Summary: An account of the work involved in the construction of a large oil refinery. Produced by Shell Petroleum Company.

Appraisal: A very well produced film with good photography. Not particularly instructive for architects unless working on industrial projects as there are no plans and no clear statement of the problems but stimulating in the occasional glimpse of some special technical or structural problem. Suitable for general architectural audiences, architectural students and schools (post G.C.E.).

16 sd., 40 min. Petroleum Films Bureau, 29 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

Figures in a Landscape. Britain 1954 (H).

Summary: The sculpture of Barbara Hepworth filmed against Cornish scenery. The script, direction and photography are by Dudley Shaw Ashton, the music by Priaulx Rainer, and the commentary, which is spoken by C. Day Lewis, by Jaquetta Hawkes.

Appraisal: A stimulating juxtaposition of landscape and sculpture: the shots of Barbara Hepworth at work are especially successful. This is an excellent and perceptive film and the scenery is wonderfully photographed: the music is rather distracting. Recommended for general architectural audiences and all architectural students.

16 sd. colour, 15 min. British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

English Country Churches. Britain 1958 (H).

Summary: An account of the architecture and history of churches in Britain. Produced by B.B.C. Television Service and directed by John Read.

Appraisal: An excellent film with history and visual impression of different stages in church architecture: it shows several examples in detail. Unfortunately at times the commentary is difficult to hear. Although a little long, a useful film for history teaching for first-year students. Recommended for general architectural audiences, architectural students and schools.

16 sd., 30 min. British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

Gustave Doré: London. France 1955 (H).

Summary: Produced and directed by Anton von der Lippe. The film presents a picture of London in Victorian times from illustrations by Doré.

Appraisal: A good evocation of Victorian London from the work of a brilliant observer. Useful for teaching history of art and architecture. The well-chosen music and absence of commentary contributed to the success of the film. Recommended for general architectural audiences, architectural students; suitable for schools.

16 sd., 10 min. British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

The Drama of Christ. Italy 1948. (H).

Summary: A film of Giotto's frescoes telling

the story of the life of Christ in the Chapel of Scrovegni, Padua. Directed and produced by Luciana Emmer and Enrico Gras.
Appraisal: An interesting film record of the paintings and a useful study of history of art and fresco technique: but the effect of the frescoes in relation to their setting is not shown. The success of this film is directly attributable to the fact that the pictures were allowed to make their point without commentary. Suitable for general architectural audiences, architectural students and schools (post G.C.E.).
16 sd., 10 min. British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

Rhythmetic. Canada 1956 (H).
Summary: A play on the words arithmetic and rhythm, this is a cartoon film on the numbers '0' to '5', which become animated, They form themselves into an endless variety of arithmetical patterns set to rhythmic sounds drawn on the sound track. The film was made for the National Film Board of Canada by Norman McLaren and Evelyn Lambert.
Appraisal: A brilliant entertainment. This excellent film is full of humour and fun. Recommended for any audience.
16 sd. colour, 10 min. From British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

Images Médiévales. France 1949 (H).
Summary: An impression of the Middle Ages from coloured illuminations in 14th and 15th-century manuscripts.
Appraisal: An interesting film which successfully evokes the atmosphere of the Middle Ages. It is clearly presented, skilfully arranged and visually excellent, but it suffers from a trite commentary, which gives no information on the origins of the pictures shown. Recommended for schools (post G.C.E.), architectural students and general architectural audiences.
16 sd. colour, 18 min. From British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1, or Institut Français, Queensberry Place, London, S.W.7.

Drawings of Leonardo da Vinci. Britain 1954 (H).
Summary: To a commentary on Da Vinci's life and outlook this film shows drawings from the Quincentenary Exhibition at the Royal Academy, 1952, together with some additions. It was directed by Adrian de Poitier and produced by Basil Wright with script and commentary by Michael Ayrton. The commentary is spoken by Sir Laurence Olivier and the quotations from the notebooks by C. Day Lewis. The music is by Alan Rawsthorne.
Appraisal: An exceptionally good film to give an impression of Leonardo's mind as expressed by his drawings. The presentation is excellent though the print seen was a very poor copy. Recommended for all audiences.
16 sd. colour, 25 min. From British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

Frescoes in Danish Churches. Denmark 1954 (H)
Summary: The film shows frescoes covering the vaults and walls of Danish churches which have only recently been rediscovered, having been whitewashed over after the Reformation. The film is directed by Jorgen Roos and produced by Luciana Emmer.
Appraisal: A good film to record the frescoes and give a view of medieval life. It is well presented and the photography is good but colour would have been an advantage. No indication of the scale of the frescoes is given or of their position in the church. For architectural students some information about the churches, the period of the frescoes, etc., would help with its appreciation. Of interest to architects, architectural students and general audiences.
16 sd., 10 min. From British Film Institute, 24 Denmark Street, London, W.C.1.

Notes and Notices

NOTICES

Third General Meeting, Tuesday 6 January 1959 at 6 p.m. The Third General Meeting of the Session 1958–59 will be held on Tuesday 6 January 1959 for the following purposes:

To read the Minutes of the Second General Meeting held on 9 December 1958; formally to admit new members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the Council's Deed of Award of Prizes and Studentships, 1959.

Special General Meeting, Tuesday 6 January 1959. A Special General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 January 1959 at the conclusion of the Third General Meeting referred to above, for the purpose of discussing the Interim Provisional Report of the Constitutional Committee and hearing a statement by the Honorary Treasurer on the financial position.

Members are referred to the editorial note on page 40.

(Light refreshments will be provided before the meeting.)

Science Discussion, Tuesday 16 December 1958 at 6.30 p.m. There will be a discussion on 'In Situ Concrete Finishes', on Tuesday 16 December 1958 at **6.30 p.m.**

(*Note:* On this occasion arrangements will be made for a *buffet meal* to be *on sale* before the meeting and, in order to assist the catering, perhaps members and others intending to be present and wishing to avail themselves of this service will kindly notify Mr. Anthony Williams, Assistant Secretary, beforehand.)

Science Discussion, Tuesday 13 January 1959 at 6.30 p.m. There will be a discussion on 'Suspended Ceilings' on Tuesday 13 January 1959 at **6.30 p.m.**

(*Note:* On this occasion arrangements will be made for a *buffet meal* to be *on sale* before the meeting and, in order to assist the catering, perhaps members and others intending to be present and wishing to avail themselves of this service will kindly notify Mr. Anthony Williams, Assistant Secretary, beforehand.)

Session 1958–1959. At the Inaugural General Meeting of the Session 1958–59 held on Tuesday 4 November 1958 at 6 p.m.

Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A., President, in the chair.

The meeting was attended by about 290 members and guests.

The Minutes of the Ninth General Meeting of the Session 1957–58 held on Tuesday 17 June 1958 having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read, confirmed and signed as correct.

The President delivered his Inaugural Address of the Session. On the motion of The Right Hon. Hugh Molson, M.P., Minister of Works, seconded by Sir Gordon Russell, C.B.E., M.C. [*Hon. A*], Director, Council of Industrial Design, a vote of thanks was passed to the President by acclamation and was briefly responded to.

The President, having alluded to the services of the Immediate Past President, then unveiled and formally presented to the Institute the portrait of Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross, M.A., D.C.L. [*F*], painted by Mr. A. R. Middleton Todd, R.A.

Mr. Cross expressed his thanks to the meeting.

The President presented the R.I.B.A. London Architecture Bronze Medal and Diploma for 1957 to Mr. Frederick MacManus [*F*], of Messrs. Edward Armstrong and MacManus [*FF*] for Brunel House, 105 Cheyne Walk, London, S.W.10, designed for the Chelsea Borough Council.

Mr. MacManus thanked the President for the honour conferred upon them.

The President also presented a replica of the Bronze Medal to Mr. Alderman B. Marsden-Smedley, Mayor of Chelsea, as representing the building owners, and a Diploma to Mr. Laurence Holloway, of Messrs. Holloway Bros., representing the contractors for the building. Alderman Marsden-Smedley and Mr. Holloway also spoke.

The President then presented Diplomas in connection with the R.I.B.A. Award for Distinction in Town Planning to Mr. Anthony Minoprio, M.A., B.Arch., A.M.T.P.I. [*F*], and Mr. J. Lewis Womersley, M.T.P.I. [*F*].

The proceedings closed at 7.15 p.m.

Cessation of Membership. Under the provisions of Bye-law 21 the following have ceased to be members of the Royal Institute: *as Fellows:* Sidney Thorn Hennell, Victor Lloyd Johnson; *as Associates:* Raymond Anand Agascar, Edward Albarn, John Anderson (Serial No. 1057), Ailwyn Montagu Best, Edward Anthony Cahill, Barry Arthur Chadwick, Sidney Ernest Cooper, Peter John Corder Durling, Margaret Elizabeth Dingwell Harvey, James Wilding Hilton, Michael Stephen Milton, John Ogilvie, Herbert James Richards, Henry Arthur Scarth, Basil Andrews Waddington, Harald Weinreich, John William Wilmot; *as Licentiates:* Horace Minns Barker, William Jack Biggin-Pound, Luther Brewer, Jack Arklie Dargie, Leopold John Ellacott Genner, Samuel Frank Parsons, Arthur Leslie Yerbury.

Shapes and Sizes of Technical Literature. Following the amendment to B.S. 1311 postcards for use by members asking manufacturers to produce technical literature in accordance with the Standard have been reprinted to include reference to the A series of international paper sizes. These are available from the Secretary, R.I.B.A., on application, free, but please state the number required.

Members and Professional Affixes. The Council's attention has been called more than once to the practice among some members of adding a string of letters of doubtful value to the affix indicating membership of the Royal Institute on their letter paper.

This is a matter in which the Council obviously cannot dictate to members, and must trust to their good sense. It should be obvious, however, that the affix of a chartered body of high standing is weakened in effect by the addition to it of a string of other mysterious designations some of which probably indicate no more than the payment of an annual subscription.

R.I.B.A. Award for Distinction in Town Planning. The R.I.B.A. Award for Distinction in Town Planning is the only award in town and country planning bestowed by the R.I.B.A. It is by conferment only and is limited to Fellows, Associates and Licentiates of the R.I.B.A. Outstanding work in the design and layout, not of individual buildings, but of groups of buildings will be recognised. The award will be made for actual planning work and while not primarily intended for housing layouts, such layouts of groups of buildings would not be excluded.

Recommendations are submitted to the Council by a Standing Committee set up for the purpose. Personal applications by candidates will not be entertained; the name of a candidate must be submitted by three or more sponsors, themselves members of the R.I.B.A., who will be required to submit details of the candidate's professional qualifications and experience and evidence of the candidate's actual planning work. Nominations may be made twice annually, on 1 March and 1 November, and must be addressed to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, London, W.1.

Members upon whom the award has been conferred will be entitled to use the designation 'R.I.B.A. Award for Distinction in Town Planning' and it is advised that this should be used in full, or the initials 'Dist. T.P.' after the initials 'F.R.I.B.A.', 'A.R.I.B.A.', or 'L.R.I.B.A.', according to the class of membership to which they belong.

British Architects' Conference, Cardiff, 10–13 June 1959. The British Architects' Conference in 1959 will be held at Cardiff from 10 to 13 June at the invitation of the South Wales Institute of Architects. Full details of the programme will be published in due course. Particulars of accommodation in hotels is given opposite.

BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE, CARDIFF, 10–13 June 1959

The Conference Committee have made provisional reservation of accommodation at the following hotels for members attending the Conference. *Early application must be made to the hotels, mentioning the British Architects' Conference*, as they will not guarantee to reserve the accommodation later than the end of March.

In the next issue of the JOURNAL a further list of hotels will be published.

Hotel	*A.A. Category*	*Rooms*		*Approx. Charges Bed and Breakfast*	*Distance from the City Hall*
		Double	*Single*		
Cardiff					
Angel Hotel, Westgate Street	4 Star	20(T)	10	32/6 to 40/– + 10%	700 yards
(U) Central Hotel, near General Station	—	18(T)	23	22/6	1,150 yards
Grand Hotel, Westgate Street	2 Star	13(T)	5	27/6 to 30/– + 10%	900 yards
* Park Hotel, Park Place	4 Star	26(T)	38	33/– to 45/– + 10%	400 yards
* Queens Hotel, St. Mary Street	3 Star	20(T)	5	28/6 + 10%	850 yards
Royal Hotel, St. Mary Street	4 Star	20(T)	10	32/6 to 40/– + 10%	1,000 yards
(U) The Llandaff Hotel, Llandaff	2 Star	7(T)	8	26/6	2 miles
Newport					
* Kings Head Hotel, High Street	3 Star	4(T)	—	27/6	12 miles
* Queens Hotel, Bridge Street	3 Star	8(T)	20	30/–	12 miles
Westgate Hotel, Commercial Street	3 Star	10	—	27/6	12 miles
Penarth					
* Esplanade Hotel	—	6	6	25/–	5 miles
St. Mellons					
* St. Mellons County Club	—	8(T)	2	40/– + 5/– membership fee	6 miles
Pontypridd					
* New Inn, Taff Street	3 Star	10(T)	—	25/– + 10%	12 miles
Bridgend					
* Wyndham Hotel, Dunraven Place	2 Star	4(T)	4	25/–	19 miles
Porthcawl					
* Seabank Hotel, The Promenade	4 Star	15(T)	12	32/6 to 42/6	26 miles
* Esplanade Hotel, Esplanade	3 Star	10(T)	8	27/6 to 30/6 + 10%	26 miles

Hotels marked (U) are unlicensed.
Hotels marked (T) have some twin-bedded rooms.
Hotels marked * have garage accommodation or private parking.
Public car parks are available near to hotels generally, and most hotels can arrange garage facilities if requested.

COMPETITIONS

Roads Campaign Council Competition. The Roads Campaign Council invite architects, engineers, surveyors, town planners, landscape architects and others interested in civic design to submit designs for a long-term plan of highway development in the London area.

Assessors: Professor Sir William Holford, M.T.P.I. [*F*], Professor W. Fisher Cassie, Ph.D., F.R.S.E., M.I.C.E., Mr. Colin D. Buchanan, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.T.P.I. [*A*].

Professional adviser: Mr. Conrad Andren.

Last day for questions: 17 January 1959.

Premiums:

(*a*) Preliminary Stage. The assessors will select not more than six competitors to proceed to the final stage. Each will receive an award of £250 within two months of the receipt of the final schemes. Last day for submitting designs: 30 April 1959.

(*b*) Final Stage. £1,750, £750, £250. Last day for submitting designs: 30 October 1959.

Conditions may be obtained from The Roads Campaign Council, 15, Dartmouth Street, London, S.W.1. Deposit: £2.

Design of Ceramic Sanitary Ware. Associated Builders Merchants Ltd., invite architects and industrial designers to submit designs in competition for various items of sanitary ware. The competition will be in two stages. The authors of the three best sets of designs submitted in the first stage will have the opportunity of collaborating with a manufacturer to be nominated by A.B.M. Ltd. to produce full-size prototypes of the items they have designed. The final award will be made on the basis of the developed prototypes.

Assessors: Mr. W. M. Goslett and Mr. C. J. B. Pratt, representing Associated Builders Merchants Ltd., Mr. P. A. Newnham [*A*], Mr. F. B. Pooley [*F*].

Premiums: £1,000, £350, £250.

Last date for submitting designs in the first stage: noon on 31 March 1959.

Contributions with forms of registration may be obtained *up to* 9 *February* 1959 from Associated Builders Merchants Ltd., Broken Wharf, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.4.

Designs for Small Houses. Last date for submitting designs: noon on 30 January 1959.

Full particulars were published in the JOURNAL for November, page 31.

Stand for the Carter Group of Companies at the 1959 Building Exhibition. Last date for submitting designs: noon on 10 February 1959.

Full particulars were published in the JOURNAL for November, page 31.

Wokingham County Infants' School. Last date for submitting designs: 15 December 1958.

Full particulars were published in the JOURNAL for August, page 355.

International Competition. A note has been received from the International Union of Architects that the conditions of the following competition have been approved by them:

Monument to Jose Batlle, Montevideo (Uruguay). Last day for submitting designs is 15 December for competitors living in Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, and for competitors elsewhere, 30 December 1958.

Full particulars were published in the JOURNAL for July, page 323.

BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

R.I.B.A. Examination for the Office of Building Surveyor under Local Authorities. At the R.I.B.A. Examination for the office of Building Surveyor under Local Authorities held on 8, 9 and 10 October 1958, nine candidates presented themselves and the following were successful: W. G. Edwards, R. A. Keel.

ALLIED SOCIETIES

Changes of Officers and Addresses

South Eastern Society of Architects. Croydon District Chapter. Hon. Secretary, Walter Watson [*A*], 29 Hoadly Road, Streatham, London, S.W.16.

Royal Australian Institute of Architects, Queensland Chapter. President, T. B. F. Gargett [*F*], Needham House, 40 Leichhardt Street, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. Executive Director, Robbins L. Elliott, 88 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Bristol and Somerset Society of Architects. Biennial Dinner. The Society's biennial dinner was held on Tuesday 11 November at the Red Lodge, Bristol. The President, Mr. E. F. Tew [*F*] was in the chair, and the R.I.B.A. was represented by the President, Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A., accompanied by Mrs. Spence, the Secretary, Mr. C. D. Spragg, C.B.E., and Mr. Gordon Ricketts, M.A., Secretary for Professional Relations. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Bristol, Alderman F. G. W. Chamberlain, and the Bishop of Malmesbury, the Right Reverend Dr. E. J. K. Roberts, M.A., were among the guests.

Mr. Evelyn Freeth [*A*] proposed the toast of the City and County of Bristol to which Alderman Chamberlain replied, and Mr. Tew proposed the toast of Architecture and the R.I.B.A., and Mr. Spence responded. The Bishop of Malmesbury replied to the toast of the Guests proposed by Mr. Michael Torrens, M.B.E. [*F*].

Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects. Annual Dinner. The Society held its annual dinner on Thursday 30 October at the Sir James Hawkey Hall, Woodford Green, Essex. The President of the Society, Mr. Robert Foster, J.P. [*F*], was in the chair and among the guests were Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A., President R.I.B.A., and Mrs. Spence, accompanied by the Secretary R.I.B.A., Mr. C. D. Spragg, C.B.E.; Alderman W. J. Bennett, C.B.E., J.P., Chairman of the Essex County Council, and Mrs. Bennett; Alderman R. A. Dalton, J.P., Mayor of the Borough of Wanstead and Woodford and Mrs. Dalton; Mr. N. S. Farrow, M.B.E., President of the London Master Builders' Association, and Mrs. Farrow; Mr. D. H. Thompson, M.A., J.P., Headmaster of Chigwell School and Mrs. Thompson; and Miss B. N. Solly [*Hon. A*], former Secretary of the A.B.S.

Mr. Foster proposed the toast of the Borough of Wanstead and Woodford to which Alderman Dalton replied, and also the toast of the R.I.B.A. to which Mr. Spence responded. Mr. Peter Bicknell, M.A. [*F*], proposed the toast of the Guests and Mr. Thompson replied.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Architectural Association. Annual Dinner. The Association's annual dinner was held on Thursday 6 November at the Polygon Hotel, Southampton. The President, Mr. Frank R. Greenen, A.M.T.P.I. [*A*], was in the chair and among the guests were the President R.I.B.A., Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A., and Mrs. Spence, accompanied by the Secretary, Mr. C. D. Spragg, C.B.E.; Dr. Horace King, Member of Parliament for the Itchen Division of Southampton, and Alderman Mrs. V. F. King, J.P.; the Deputy Mayor of Southampton, Alderman G. T. Dicks, J.P., and Mrs. Dicks; the Sheriff of Southampton, Alderman Mrs. R. M. Stonehouse; and Professor H. C. Baldry, M.A., representing the Vice-Chancellor of Southampton University, and Mrs. Baldry.

Dr. King proposed the toast of the R.I.B.A., and Mr. Spence responded, and Mr. Greenen proposed the toast of the Guests to which Alderman Dicks replied.

North Staffordshire Architectural Association. Annual Dinner. The Association's annual dinner was held on Tuesday 28 October at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, with the President, Mr. C. Knapper [*F*] in the chair. The R.I.B.A. was represented by Mr. Basil Spence, O.B.E., A.R.A., A.R.S.A., President, accompanied by the Secretary, Mr. C. D. Spragg, C.B.E. Among the guests were Colonel Sir George Wade, M.C., J.P.; the Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of the City of Stoke-on-Trent, Alderman S. Capewell, J.P.; Mr. Christopher C. Bullock, A.C.A., T.D., J.P., Vice-Chairman, N.S. Branch of the Institute of Chartered Accountants; and Mr. R. S. Deacon, President, North Staffordshire and District Law Society.

Mr. Spence replied to the toast of the R.I.B.A. proposed by Colonel Sir George Wade, and Alderman Capewell replied to the toast of the City of Stoke-on-Trent proposed by Mr. George L. Greaves [*A*]. Mr. Bullock proposed the toast of the Association and Mr. Clifton Edwards [*F*], Hon. Secretary, responded, and Mr. Deacon replied to the toast of Our Guests proposed by Mr. Knapper.

Notes from the Minutes of the Council

MEETING HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 1958

Appointment of R.I.B.A. Representatives

(*a*) *Ministry of Education National Advisory Council on Art Education.* A. Neville Ward [*A*].

(*b*) *R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal: Jury convened by the Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors.* Norman H. Fowler [*F*] (Vice-President).

(*c*) *B.S.I. Committee B/91: Cork.* N. A. Royce [*F*] in place of S. Vincent Goodman [*F*].

Model Building By-laws. In view of the review of the English Model Building By-laws due in 1960, the Codes and Standards Committee have studied the report of the Committee on Building Legislation in Scotland.

The Council considered a report presented by the Committee and approved of its publication.

R.I.B.A. Annual Report. Approval was given to a proposal from the Public Relations Committee to redesign the format and layout of the Annual Report, and it was agreed that this should be put in hand in time for the Report due in May 1959.

Membership. The following members were elected: as Fellows 3; as Associates 7.

Students. 34 Probationers were elected as Students.

Applications for Election. Applications for election were approved as follows: *Election* 6 *January* 1959: as Fellows 11; as Associates 35. *Election* 10 *March* 1959 (*Overseas Candidates*): as Fellow 1; as Associates 7.

Applications for Reinstatement. The following applications were approved: as Fellow: James Taylor; as Associate: Mrs. Marie Pauline Moss.

Resignations. The following resignations were accepted with regret: Albert Lauriston Crisp [*F*], Edward George Thomson [*A*], George Miles Ascoli [*A*], Horace Alwyn Hogarth [*A*], Mrs. Gabrielle Priscilla Rokseth [*A*], William Keith Thomson [*A*], Frederick Henry Buen [*L*], William Shackleton [*L*].

Applications for Transfer to Retired Members' Class under Bye-law 15. The following applications were approved: as retired Fellows: Laurence Mortimer Angus, John Greaves, Clifford C. Makins, Wilfrid Hurford Wingate. As Retired Licentiates: Charles H. Cousins, Westbury Lloyd Jones.

Obituary. The Secretary reported with regret the death of the following members: Ernst F. Burckhardt [*Hon. Corresponding Member*], Frederick Sutcliffe [*F*], Arthur Cecil Fare, R.W.A. [*Retd. F*], Ewart William Fisher, J.P. [*Retd. F*], George Edward Pepper [*Retd. F*], John Jackson Beck [*A*], Gilbert Robert Beveridge [*A*], Frank Kennerell Pope [*A*], Walter Hooker [*Retd. A*], David Williams [*Retd. A*], Manolo Cyril Hughes [*L*], Herbert George Kemp [*L*], Richard Ernest Bernard Wilkinson [*L*], William Norris Bradford [*Student*], Alan Edward Potts [*Student*].

By resolution of the Council the sympathy and condolences of the Royal Institute have been conveyed to their relatives.

GENERAL NOTES

The Victorian Society. The Committee of the Victorian Society has now been completed and is as follows:

CHAIRMAN: The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Esher, G.B.E. [*Hon. F*].

VICE-CHAIRMEN: The Countess of Rosse, Mr. John Betjeman [*Hon. A*].

COMMITTEE: Sir Hugh Casson, R.D.I., F.S.I.A. [*F*], Mrs. Gay Christiansen, Mr. Peter Clarke, Mr. Peter Ferriday, Mr. Peter Floud, C.B.E., Mr. William Gaunt, Mr. Mark Girouard, Ph.D., Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, C.B.E., F.S.A. (Past President), Mr. Ian Grant [*A*], Mr. Rupert Gunnis, Mr. J. Brandon-Jones [*A*], Mr. Christopher Hussey, C.B.E., F.S.A. [*Hon. A*], Mr. Ivor Idris, Canon C. B. Mortlock, F.S.A. [*Hon. A*], Dr. N. Pevsner, C.B.E., F.S.A. [*Hon. A*], Professor J. M. Richards [*A*], Mr. Carew Wallace, A.R.I.C.S.

The Council for Theatre Preservation. Growing concern at the recent loss of theatres has prompted the formation of a Council for Theatre Preservation to ensure that proposals affecting the future of any theatre of historical or architectural interest, or necessary to the contemporary living drama, will be fully scrutinised by expert opinion and, if necessary, given wide publicity.

All major interests are represented on the Council and its very existence is therefore expected to have a moderating influence. There will be less risk that proposals which threaten demolition will come to a head unnoticed or that sudden and irrevocable decisions will be made before there has been an opportunity to debate them. The influence of the Council, it is hoped, will also be felt when town-planning policies are under consideration.

The effectiveness of the Council for Theatre Preservation will depend upon the extent to which it can be kept informed of developments in the different parts of the country. Its composition is largely a guarantee of vigilance, but the ultimate guarantee of success lies with all who, interested in the future of our theatres, will be ready to pass to the Secretary any information which it is felt ought to be brought to the notice of the Council.

The members of the Council are Sir Bronson Albery, Mr. John Betjeman [*Hon. A*], Mr. Ivor Brown, Sir Hugh Casson [*F*], Lord Conesford, Mr. George Devine, Mr. Osbert Lancaster [*Hon. A*], Mr. J. B. Priestley, Lord Silkin, Mrs. Stocks and Sir Donald Wolfit; with the Executive: Mr. V. C. Clinton-Baddeley (Chairman), Mr. Charles Farrell (of Equity), Mr. Victor Glasstone [*A*], Mr. Kenneth Robinson, M.P., and Mr. William Kendall (Secretary, 89 Maze Hill, S.E.10).

Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, Course on Architectural Project Management. The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies (the former York Institute of Architectural Study) has arranged a course on 'Architectural Project Management' to be held from 2–6 January inclusive at Micklegate York, under the direction of Dr. W. A. Singleton, F.S.A., A.M.T.P.I. [*F*].

The course is intended for architects, surveyors, civil engineers and builders, and has received the support of the R.I.B.A. Practice Committee, which has collaborated closely in preparing the syllabus and selecting the lecturers. Matters relating to all sizes of office, from the small private practice to the large municipal office, will be discussed.

The tuition fee is 6 guineas. Residential accommodation will be arranged by the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies at a near-by hotel, but members attending the course will be responsible for their own hotel expenses.

The lecturers will include: G. W. E. Airey, M.A., F.I.O.B., Council Member, Institute of Builders; J. M. Austin-Smith [*F*], Eric L. Bird [*A*], Technical Research and Education Officer, The Building Centre; W. Carr, M.I.H.V.E., Consulting Engineer; J. D. Gould, Management Consultant, Urwick, Orr and Partners, Ltd.; I. Leadbetter, B.Sc., Consulting Engineer; J. Nisbet, F.R.I.C.S., Principal Quantity Surveyor, Ministry of Education; Rex Proctor, F.R.I.C.S., M.R.San.I. [*A*]; W. Pryer, Hall Harding Ltd.; F. W. West, Howard Farrow Ltd.; John Wilkinson, [*A*]; C. E. D. Wooster [*A*], Architect's Department, University Grants Committee.

Application forms are obtainable from the Secretary, Mr. J. P. West-Taylor, M.A., Micklegate, York, and must be completed and returned by 17 December.

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Banister Fletcher Scholarship. The S.P.A.B. has awarded the first Banister Fletcher Scholarship to Mr. H. J. M. Green [*Student*], of St. Ives, Hunts. This is to enable him to study the treatment and repair of old buildings under the Society's technical experts and to gain knowledge of traditional methods of building and use of materials. He will study with the Society for six months. Mr. Green studied at The Polytechnic School of Architecture, Regent Street.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. Grants made this year by the Board of Trustees of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation included one of £42,000 for restoring the fabric of the Old Bodleian Library, Oxford.

The British School at Rome received £10,000 to endow an additional scholarship for sculptors from any part of the British Commonwealth, to be known as the Gulbenkian Rome Scholarship; and a grant of £2,000 was made towards the cost of publishing by the Clarendon Press, Oxford, the fourth and final volume of Professor Creswell's monumental *History of Muslim Architecture*.

Professor K. A. C. Creswell [*Hon. A*] was until recently Professor of Muslim Art and Archaeology at the Egyptian University, and is our principal authority on Islamic architecture.

The Hellenic and Roman Societies, London, received £200 to start building up a modern loan collection of colour transparencies of classical sites and subjects for showing in schools, etc.

A grant of £1,000 was made towards the expenses of a small independent group, set up to discover, define and plan for the needs of adolescents in Stevenage New Town.

Leverhulme Research Awards. Fellowships and Grants, 1959. Application is invited for Fellowships and Grants in aid of research. These awards are intended for senior workers of established position and are limited to British-born subjects normally resident in the United Kingdom; in exceptional circumstances the Trustees may waive the condition as to residence.

No subject of inquiry is excluded from consideration but preference is given to subjects in which existing provision for research is inadequate.

The duration of the awards does not extend over more than two years or less than three months and the amount depends on the nature of the research and the circumstances of the applicant.

Application must be made on Form 'F' obtainable together with further details from the Secretary, Leverhulme Research Awards, St. Bridget's House, Bridewell Place, E.C.4.

The closing date is 31 December 1958. Results will be announced in May and the awards will normally date from 1 September 1959.

University College, London. Reception and Reunion. An evening reception and reunion will be held at the College on Friday 27 February 1959 (6.30 p.m.–9 p.m.). Former undergraduates or post-graduates who entered the College during the years 1918–33 are invited. Applications for tickets (which are limited and will be issued in order of application) should be made to the Assistant Secretary, University College London, Gower Street, W.C.1.

Obituaries

William Henry Randoll Blacking, F.S.A. [*F*] died on 24 January 1958, aged 69.

Mr. Blacking was educated at King's College School, Wimbledon, and was afterwards articled to Sir Ninian Comper, F.S.A. After serving in the First World War he started practice in Guildford in 1919. He moved to Salisbury in 1932 and Mr. R. J. Potter [*F*] was in partnership with him from 1946 to 1953.

Most of Mr. Blacking's work had to do with churches and cathedrals. The first church which he designed was at Litton, Derbyshire, in 1927, and his most recent was St. Alban's Northampton. Other churches included the Church of the Resurrection, Cosham; St. Alban's, Abington; and St. Mary's, Littlehampton. Examples of his decorative work and furnishings, which included designs in wood and metal, brocades and embroidery, are to be seen at St. Alban's Abbey (font and chapels); Westminster Abbey (frontals); St. Peter's and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton; St. Andrew's and St. Thomas's, Hove; St. George's, Windsor; and Basingstoke Parish Church.

Mr. Blacking was also responsible for work in Chichester, Hereford, Sheffield, Coventry (old) and Worcester Cathedrals, where he had been the consulting architect, and also at Bristol, Gloucester and Salisbury, and other cathedrals. His most recent work at Salisbury Cathedral was a series of shields behind the canons' stall and the restoration of the Audley Chantry as a memorial to Bishop Lovett.

He was a member of the Central Council for the Care of Churches (Standing Committee), and had been consulting architect to the Incorporated Church Building Society.

Walter Louis Carr [*L*] died on 10 May 1958, aged 78.

A native of Wakefield, Mr. Carr was articled to Mr. F. Massey there, and his first appointment was as surveyor to Sandal Council, near Wakefield. Shortly afterwards he became the first engineer and surveyor to Ruislip-Northwood Council when the district was given urban district status in 1904. Confronted with the task of building up an entirely rural area, sparsely populated, with few good roads, into an entity and character of its own, he drew up (in association with Mr. Stanley White) the No. 1 (1914) Town Planning Scheme for Ruislip-Northwood, the first scheme in the country to be accepted. Many local authorities were interested and later followed some of the principles of the scheme which was to lay the foundations of planned development locally.

In 1920 Mr. Carr left local government service to practise on his own account in Northwood, when he drew up the South Mimms Town Planning Scheme. He retained his interest in local government, however, by serving as a Councillor on the Ruislip-Northwood U.D.C. for thirty years, and as chairman from 1949–51. In 1949 he was elected on to the Middlesex County Council and was chairman of the Town Planning Committee for three years, and also chairman of the West Middlesex Planning Committee. At the time of his death he had just been re-elected to the Central and North Middlesex Valuation Panel for a further term of office.

Both in his official and private capacity Mr. Carr had been responsible for the development of several estates in the district and other work included a Roman Catholic church, a cinema, the repair and preservation of many old buildings, and at the time of his death he was completing a garage and petrol filling station.

Charlie Castelow [*A*] died on 12 June 1958, aged 77.

Mr. Castelow served his articles and became an assistant in the firm of Connon and Chorley [*F*/*F*] of Leeds. He commenced private practice in Leeds in 1912 and entered into partnership with Mr. C. Benson Hill [*L*] in 1924. Mr. Frank Green [*L*] joined the partnership in 1946. Mr. Hill and Mr. Green are continuing the practice, for the time being, under the style of C. Castelow, at 10 Park Row, Leeds.

Mr. Castelow's work included many private residences, mostly prior to 1930, the development of private estates, municipal housing, office blocks and shops, and textile and clothing factories and engineering works.

His branch library at Cross Gates, Leeds, was awarded the R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal in the area of the West Yorkshire Society of Architects for the years 1939–51.

Harry Beckett Swift Gibbs, M.T.P.I. [*F*] [*R.I.B.A. Distinction in Town Planning*], died on 14 August 1958, aged 69.

Professor Stephen Welsh [*F*] writes:

'Born of Sheffield stock and adopted by Edward Mitchell Gibbs [*F*], a well-known Sheffield architect, he was educated at the Mount School, Scarborough, and Buxton College. One of the first intake of students into the Department of Architecture, established in 1907 by the University of Sheffield, he was, at the end of his five years' course in 1912, awarded the University's Diploma in Architecture. As such courses were not then recognised by the R.I.B.A., he sat and passed in the following year the R.I.B.A. Final Examination gaining Distinction for his Thesis on "The life and works of James Gibbs". He was elected Associate R.I.B.A., in 1914.

'During the First World War he held a commission in the Royal Field Artillery and served with the West Riding Brigade, Territorial Army.

'On demobilisation he joined the staff of Gibbs, Flockton and Teather of Sheffield and became a partner in 1921. The partnership of Gibbs, Flockton, Teather and Gibbs did not last long, being dissolved in 1923. Thereafter, J. Amory Teather [*F*] practised on his own account. The partnership of Gibbs, Flockton and Gibbs was dissolved in June 1928. From that date C. B. Flockton [*F*] practised as Flockton and Son, and E. M. and H. B. S. Gibbs as Gibbs and Gibbs.

'Gibbs, Flockton and Gibbs were architects for the Gymnasium of the University of Sheffield and for the Safety in Mines Building near to the Sheffield University's Applied Science Department. Later, Gibbs and Gibbs were responsible for the original part of the building for the Mining Department and the Sports Pavilion of the University of Sheffield.

'After the death of E. M. Gibbs in 1935 at the age of 88 years, H. B. S. Gibbs continued to practice as Gibbs and Gibbs. The heyday of the firm was, however, over.

'Although H. B. S. Gibbs was, as a man, shy, diffident and difficult to know, he was, through his wide interests, well known in many fields of activity.

'Brought up to be a Unitarian he had been for the past twelve years Honorary Treasurer of the Upper Chapel, Sheffield.

'He had a life-long interest in the affairs of the Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors, served as its Honorary Secretary from 1923 to 1956 and was loath to relinquish that office to become President in 1956.

'A man of considerable possessions he was interested in the affairs of the Sheffield Property Owners' Association.

'Widely read in both architectural and general history he served on the Council of the Hunter Archaeological Society and of the Peak District branch of the C.P.R.E.

'In his youth he had played both cricket and hockey. Later, he gave long and faithful service on the administrative side of hockey having been Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Sheffield Hockey Club from 1921 to 1957 and, for many years member of the General Committee and Chairman of the Southern District of the Yorkshire County Hockey Association as well as its President from 1953–55.

'He was a founder member of the Derbyshire Pennine Club, was interested in Alpine pursuits and had written on at least one of his more interesting climbs in the Alps and on ski-ing.

'After a severe fall in February 1957 he had borne failing health with courage.'

Edwin Gunn [*Retd. A*].

Mr. Walter H. Godfrey, C.B.E. [*F*], writes: 'To your obituary notice of the late Edwin Gunn in the October issue of the JOURNAL, should I think be added some reference to his fine draughtsmanship. He was until 1927 an active member of the London Survey Committee and in 1903 he issued, in their series of monographs, his fine survey of the Great House, Leyton, the same year in which this beautiful house was destroyed. The volume was printed by C. R. Ashbee's press which had already been moved from Essex House, London, to Campden, Glos.'

Arnold F. Hendy [*L*] died on 24 March 1958, aged 63.

Mr. Hendy was born in England but received his architectural training in Dublin in the office of Messrs. Wm. H. Byrne and Son, and he commenced private practice in that city in 1925 in partnership with the late William Kaye-Parry [*F*] and Mr. George Ross. Mr. William I. Baird who was taken into partnership in 1957 is continuing the practice.

Among Mr. Hendy's principal works in Dublin were Carnegie Public Library, Ballsbridge, offices for the Pearl Assurance Co., Westmoreland Street, premises for Sims Watkins, Tara Street, and a new factory for the Beecham Group at Drimnagh. Other work included Sandyford National School, Sandyford, and a Roman Catholic Church at Stepaside, both in County Dublin.

Arthur George Lynham [*Retd. F*] died on 19 May 1958, aged 79.

Mr. Lynham was articled to Messrs. Wilde and Fry of Weston-super-Mare and subsequently held various appointments with Mr. W. V. Gough [*F*] and Messrs. Oatley and Lawrence [*F/A*] in Bristol and also with the Devon and Northants County Councils. In 1911 he started private practice in Pontypridd, Glamorgan, and eight years later became a partner in the firm of Thomas and Morgan and Partners, where he remained until retirement in 1948.

Among his principal works in Wales were Mountain Ash General Hospital, Glam., Talgarth T.B. Sanatorium, Breconshire, and extensions to Cefn Mably T.B. Sanatorium, Mon.; St. Dubritius R.C. Church, Pontypridd, and a Methodist church at Cyncoed, Cardiff; a masonic temple at Pontyclun, Llantrisant, Glam; the headquarters for Ynysybwl Industrial Co-operative Society, Pontypridd; and housing schemes for the Rural District Councils of Magor and St. Mellons, Monmouth, Chepstow and Llantrisant and Llantwit Fadre, and also Clutton, Somerset.

Mr. Lynham had served on the Council of the South Wales Institute of Architects.

Samuel McIlveen, A.M.I.C.E. [*L*], died on 28 March 1958, aged 70.

Mr. McIlveen served his articles with Mr. Roome in Belfast and subsequently worked in Dublin and Cork with a valuation office and also with Messrs. Workman, Clarke and Co., shipbuilders (since taken over by Messrs. Harland and Wolff), in Belfast. He started private practice in Belfast in 1922 in partnership with Mr. Robert Ferguson, A.M.I.C.E. [*L*]. Mr. F. Poskitt, A.M.I.C.E., was taken into partnership in 1952.

During his 36 years of partnership, the firm of R. Ferguson and S. McIlveen was responsible for a considerable amount of work throughout the six counties of Ulster, including private and council housing, schools, hospital work, masonic halls, churches, and factories for the Ministry of Commerce at Larne, Castlereagh and Lisnaskea (Fermanagh). He was also associated with engineering work including, most recently, the Spelga Dam, Co. Down.

He was Vice-President of the Royal Society of Ulster Architects during a second year in office at the time of his death and had been a very active member of the Society's Council. He was also a prominent mason and had received his 30th Degree.

James William Mayhew [*L*] died on 8 December 1955, aged 53.

Mr. Mayhew received his training in the office of Messrs. George A. Crawley and Partners. In 1936 he became a junior partner to Mr. Gervase Bailey [*F*] and four years later took up the appointment of resident architect to the Plastics Division of I.C.I. at Welwyn Garden City.

Among his principal works were office buildings in London, including Quality Court, Chancery Lane, and Egginton House, Buckingham Gate, S.W.1, and the new factory buildings, canteen and recreation club on the I.C.I. Plastics Division site at Welwyn. He was also on the building panel which worked on the erection of the new I.C.I. laboratories designed by Mr. E. D. Jefferiss Mathews, O.B.E. [*F*].

John Donald Mills [*Retd. F*] died on 26 January 1958, aged 86.

A native of Dundee, Mr. Mills was educated at Morgan Academy and Dundee High School. After studying architecture at University College, Dundee, and in the Midlands, Mr. Mills started practice in Dundee and was in partnership with the late G. D. B. Shepherd [*F*].

Besides a great deal of private work he designed buildings for University College, Dundee and the University of St. Andrews. His main work at St. Andrews was St. Salvator's Hall, the restoration of the Old Parliament Hall and the Chemistry Buildings. He was also responsible for restoration work on several Scottish castles, including Fingask. The late Queen Mary was so impressed by work he carried out for the Duke of Atholl that she invited him to help in the design of Balmoral Castle gardens.

Mr. Mills was a past-President of the Dundee Institute of Architects, and for many years he was a member of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.

Gerard Leendert Pieter Moerdyk, D.Litt.(South Africa) [*A*], died on 29 March 1958, aged 68.

Dr. Moerdyk received his training at the A.A., the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris, and also in Rome. He commenced practice in Pretoria, South Africa, and later established a branch office in Bloemfontein. In 1914 he took Mr. H. Ingress Watson, who had been associated with him for many years, into partnership, and when his daughter (now Mrs. Vermeulen) received her architectural diploma at Pretoria University, she was also taken into partnership. Mr. Watson is continuing the practice of Moerdyk and Watson in Pretoria and his daughter is in charge of the Bloemfontein office of Moerdyk, Watson and Vermeulen.

Dr. Moerdyk was responsible for some 80 Afrikaans churches all over South Africa and also in Rhodesia, the Prime Minister's residence in Pretoria (which he won in competition), numerous banks and office buildings, and his outstanding work was the Voortrekker Monument, just outside Pretoria. This work took some ten years to complete and was inaugurated in 1949 by the South African Prime Minister. In his church work he was noted for replanning the traditional design of the Afrikaans church to conform with the service, paying special attention to acoustics, and his design has been followed by many younger architects.

Dr. Moerdyk was chairman of the University of Pretoria for eleven years and had written many articles on architecture for South African periodicals.

Ernest Alexander Rahles Rahbula, O.B.E., M.C., F.S.A. [*A*], died on 2 August 1958, aged 70.

Mr. Rahbula served his articles with Mr. J. G. S. Gibson [*F*] of Gibson and Gordon until 1910 when he joined the staff of the Victoria County History. He also studied at the Royal Academy Schools where he won a silver medal. In 1912 he joined Messrs. Flockhart and Guthrie [*F/A*] in order to work for his associateship of the R.I.B.A., which he

obtained in 1913. He was appointed to the staff of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England) as an Investigator in the same year. Apart from service with the 18th Army Brigade, R.F.A., during the First World War, Mr. Rahbula remained with the Royal Commission and finally became Principal Investigator, a position which he held until his retirement three years ago.

Mr. Rahbula was a member of both the Ely and Guildford Diocesan Advisory Committees and had also contributed articles to the journals of various archaeological and other learned societies.

William Henry Riley [*F*] died on 6 May 1958, aged 83.

Mr. Riley was educated at The Art School, Leicester, and started private practice there about 1923. The practice is being continued by his brother and partner, Captain H. G. Riley [*A*].

Mr. Riley's work included factories, foundries and engineering works; twelve cinemas throughout the county; private housing and school alterations; and in particular premises for Messrs. Wolsey Ltd., the bus garage and administrative block for the City of Leicester Transport, and the Blind Institution, all in Leicester.

He was the author of *English Church Architecture*, published by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton.

Sir Stephen Tallents, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E. [*Hon. A*], died on 11 September 1958 aged 73.

Sir Stephen has been described as 'a civil servant with imagination, completely unfettered by red tape'.

Through his mother, the daughter of Lord Ashcombe, he was descended from Thomas Cubitt. He was elected an Honorary Associate in 1946, and at one time was a frequent visitor to the R.I.B.A. on the occasion of the opening of exhibitions.

Among the posts Sir Stephen occupied during his distinguished and varied career was Secretary to the Empire Marketing Board, 1926–33, where he had the opportunity in conjunction with men like the late Frank Pick of employing good artists for publicity work. He early recognised the importance of the documentary film which owes much to his encouragement.

He was Public Relations Officer, General Post Office, 1933–35. From 1943–46 he was a Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Town and Country Planning; first President of the Institute of Public Relations (1947–49 and 1953). He served as a member of the Council of the Royal Society of Arts in 1953, and was President of the Design and Industries Association, 1955–56.

Samuel Taylor [*F*] died on 24 July 1958, aged 85.

Mr. Taylor, who had been articled to Mr. C. V. Dunkerley in 1888, had been in private practice in Burnley since 1906. His son, Mr. John Taylor [*F*], and Mr. J. E. Wadsworth [*A*], who were his partners in the firm of Samuel Taylor, Son and Platt are continuing the practice. His work had included hospital extensions, local factories, bakeries and dairies, transport garages at Preston, Wigan and Burnley, free church chapels, brewery and domestic work.

Mr. Taylor had been President of the Burnley District Society of Architects, a member of the Manchester Society of Architects Council and served on the Allied Societies' Conference. He had been architect to Bowland and Clitheroe R.D.C.s and honorary architect to the Lancashire and Cheshire Association Baptist Church. Since 1925 he had been on the Burnley Town Council, and was Mayor of the Borough in 1943. He had also been Leader of the Burnley Liberal Association for many years and was the senior member of the Council, secretary of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church for almost 60 years and moderator of several free church councils and Baptist organisations in North East Lancashire. He was an active Rotarian and was President of the Burnley Rotary Club in 1943.

His son writes:

'My father had a very full and active life and tried his best to serve the town and the free churches in particular. He was actively engaged in the practice until a few weeks before his death. He enjoyed all he did and we all feel very proud in the office that the services he rendered had been appreciated by so many people in all walks of life.'

Kenneth Frederick Templeman, A.M.T.P.I. [*F*], died on 3 August 1958, aged 48.

Mr. Templeman was articled to Mr. Frank S. Swash [*F*] of Newport and went into partnership with Mr. Chas. M. Swannell [*F*] in Gray's Inn, London, W.C.1, in 1947. Mr. Swannell is continuing the practice.

Mr. Templeman's work had included hospital extensions, factories, private houses and housing schemes.

Herbert Tooley [*Retd. F*] died on 24 May 1958, aged 91.

Mr. Tooley served his articles with the late J. W. Cockrill [*A*], of Gt. Yarmouth and was for a year at The Royal Academy School under Professor Phené Spiers [*F*]. He won the A.A. Essay medal in 1888 and a gold medal in Architectural Design in a National Competition of the V. and A. Science and Art Department.

After further experience in London and Sheffield he started private practice in 1892 in Buckhurst Hill, Essex, and from 1894 combined with it the surveyorship of the Buckhurst Hill Urban District Council. During this period, apart from domestic work, he designed several of the pumping stations in the Lea Valley for the then East London Water Company, hospitals at Waltham Abbey, Epping and Buckhurst Hill and carried out most of the work at the Epping Institution for the Board of Guardians. He was architect for Chigwell School, Essex, and designed the Memorial Chapel there. He also designed, over fifty years ago, one of the first new secondary schools at Loughton.

In 1910 he was joined in partnership by Mr. R. C. Foster who had served his articles with him and been with him for 10 years previously, and the firm of Tooley and Foster of Buckhurst Hill was founded, the present partners being, besides Mr. R. C. Foster, Mr. R. O. Foster, J.P. [*F*], Mr. H. D. Matthew, M.B.E., M.C. [*A*], and Mr. A. J. Power [*A*]. The firm has an extensive practice in Essex for schools, hospitals and housing work.

Mr. Tooley retired to South Devon in 1922 where he had lived until his death. His great love in his retirement was Dartmoor which he knew well. He was much interested in the design of high wooden masts for wireless, and for Messrs. Coubro and Scrutton designed and superintended the erection of several masts, including one at Malta 600 ft. high and also the flagpole at Kew which has just been replaced.

Mr. R. C. Foster, M.B.E., M.C. [*F*] writes:

'He was an architect of the old school who loved to do every detail himself, including the design of heating and hot water supplies and often in those days took off his own bills of quantities.

'He was a man of sterling character, respected by everyone who came in contact with him and loved by those who were closest to him as I was for 58 years.'

Membership Lists

ELECTION: 4 NOVEMBER 1958

The following candidates for membership were elected on 4 November 1958.

AS FELLOWS (3)

Ball: Kenneth James, Dip.Arch.(Sheffield) [*A* 1947], Singapore, Malaya.
Barker: Graeme Charles [*A* 1951], Nairobi, Kenya, E. Africa.
Stephenson: Arthur Peter, M.Arch(Harvard), B.Arch.(Sydney) [*A* 1949], North Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

AS ASSOCIATES (7)

Deshmukh: Ramesh Govind, Bombay, India.
Gokhale: Shrikrishna Laxman, Bombay, India.
Kelvey: Daniel Whatley, Dip.Arch.(Auck., N.Z.), Brisbane, Australia.
Li: Hoch Hung, B.Arch.(Melbourne), Singapore, Malaya.
Raje: Anant Damodar, Bombay, India.
Waters: Ian Thomas, B.Arch.(Sydney), Wollongong, N.S.W., Australia.
Wong: Benedict Chin Fah, Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

ELECTION: 6 JANUARY 1959

An election of candidates for membership will take place on 6 January 1959. The names and addresses of the candidates, with the names of their proposers, are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication respecting them must be sent to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than Saturday 13 December 1958.

The names following the applicant's address are those of his proposers.

AS FELLOWS (11)

Carey: Oliver Cecil Frances, A.A.Dipl. [*A.* 1940], 1 Dale Close, Hitchin, Herts. The Hon. Lionel Brett, C. H. Aslin, E. D. Mills.

Chamberlin: Peter Hugh Girard [*A* 1948], Avenue Studios, 15 Sydney Mews, Fulham Road, S.W. 1; 10 Hollywood Court, Hollywood Road, S.W.10. Prof. Sir Leslie Martin, Basil Spence, Prof. Sir William Holford.

Howrie: Robert John, M.B.E., B.A.(Arch.) (Sheffield) [*A* 1938], School of Architecture, Leicester College of Art, 1 Newarke Street, Leicester; 69 Aberdale Road, Leicester. Prof. Stephen Welsh, Harold Conolly, G. A. Cope.

Nicol: John [*A* 1946], City Education Architect's Dept., Academy Street, Belfast; 6 Wilshere Drive, Belfast, H. A. Clark, D. A. Shanks, T. E. North.

Searle: David Odell [*A* 1948], Messrs. Searle and Searle, 2 South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C.1; Concord House, Marine Parade, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. L. K. Hett, A. V. Banks, H. W. E. Lindo.

Statham: Stephen Haywood [*A* 1946], Devonshire Close, 39 Devonshire Street, W.1; 'The Barns', 30 Field End Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex. Sir Giles Scott, E. H. Firmin, R. D. Scott.

Sweetnam: John Patrick Beamish, Dip.Arch. (The Polytechnic) [*A* 1942], 87 Northbrook Street, Newbury, Berks.; The Courtway, Bonemill Lane, Newbury. M. H. Brashier, E. C. Scherrer, J. K. Hicks.

Warwick: Ian Francis, M.B.E., T.D., Dip. Arch.(The Polytechnic), S.P.Dip., A.M.T.P.I. [*A* 1940], 28*c* Devonshire Street, W.1. Bertram Carter, Sydney Tatchell, R. F. Tatchell.

Widdup: Frank Macfarlane, Dipl.Arch. (Leeds) [*A* 1941], Messrs. Peter Dunham, Widdup and Harrison, 2 Union Street, Luton, Beds.; 'Tall Trees', Swannell's Wood, Studham, nr. Dunstable, Beds. Peter Dunham, Prof. J. S. Allen, S. V. Goodman.

and the following Licentiates who are qualified under Section IV, Clause 4(*c*)(ii) of the Supplemental Charter of 1925:

Elford: Percy William Tapson, T.D., Sherwell House, Armada Street, Tavistock Road, Plymouth; 'Deepdene', Amacre Drive, Hooe, nr. Plymouth. S. R. Edwards, C. F. J. Thurley, J. A. Powell.

Greenaway: Bramwell Victor, Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1; 12 Stanley House, Albion Avenue, S.W.8. A. S. Gray, W. A. Guttridge, J. E. M. Macgregor.

AS ASSOCIATES (35)

The names of a school, or schools, after a candidate's name indicates the passing of a recognised course.

Addey: David Mercer (Arch.Assoc.(London): Sch. of Arch.), 17 Calverley Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Cecil Burns, M. Pattrick, C. K. Capon.

Badnell: Gordon John, Dipl.Arch.(Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly.(London): Dept. of Arch.), 'Cranford', Alvista Avenue, Bath Road, Taplow, nr. Maidenhead, Berks. T. E. Scott, C. G. Bath, S. F. Burley.

Belford: Shane Boyd, B.Arch.(L'pool), (Liverpool Sch. of Arch., Univ. of Liverpool), 20 Glenmillen Park, Old Holywood Road, Belfast, N. Ireland. Prof. R. Gardner-Medwin, R. R. Young, F. J. M. Ormrod.

Beresford: (Mrs.) Zoia Ann, Dipl.Arch. (Oxford), (Sch. of Tech. Art and Commerce, Oxford: Sch. of Arch.), 5 Church Street, Titchfield, Hants. R. W. Cave, A. C. Townsend, R. L. Reynish.

Bonner: Michael Frank (Arch.Assoc.(London): Sch. of Arch.), 9 Kings Road, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex. Ronald Ward, Victor Wilkins, Arthur Korn.

Brown: Brian George, A.A.Dipl.(Arch. Assoc.(London): Sch. of Arch.), 8 East Towers, Pinner, Middlesex. Arthur Korn, R. O. Foster, Philip Powell.

Darby: Keith Roy, A.A.Dipl.(Arch.Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 100 South Hill Park, Hampstead, N.W.3. Anthony Cox, Leo De Syllas, S. R. Pierce.

Everett: Derek George, Dip.Arch.(Leics.), (Leicester Coll. of Art and Tech.: Sch. of Arch.), 4 Church Lane, Hartford, Huntingdon. S. Penn Smith, F. Chippindale, G. A. Cope.

Fresson: Kenneth Simon, A.A.Dipl.(Arch. Assoc.(London): Sch. of Arch.), Old Meadows, Alders Road, Reigate, Surrey. E. L. Gale, R. G. Cox, E. A. Day.

Gibson: Kenneth Roy, (Final), 329 Nottingham Road, Derby. S. Morrison, G. I. Larkin, E. H. Ashburner.

Harington: (Miss) Ann, Dipl.Arch.(Oxford), (Sch. of Tech. Art and Commerce, Oxford: Sch. of Arch.), 35 Royal Avenue, Chelsea, S.W.3. E. D. J. Mathews, A. G. Nisbet, O. D Pearce.

Harrington: Frederick Robert, A.A.Dipl. (Arch.Assoc.(London): Sch. of Arch.), 1 Brookside Road, N.19. Arthur Korn, E. M. Fry, M. Pattrick.

Henderson: Harold, Dip.Arch(Dunelm), (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), The Cottage, Hawthorn Village, Seaham, Co. Durham. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Bruce Allsopp, F. Fielden.

Holmes: Charles Derek, (Final), 8 Burnside, Spital Tongues, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2. Prof. W. B. Edwards, R. N. MacKellar, F. Fielden.

Hooper: Nicholas Morton Douglas, M.A. (Cantab.), D.A.(Edin.), (Edinburgh Coll. of Art: Sch. of Arch.), 7 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent. Prof. R. H. Matthew, Hubert Bennett, David Roberts.

Hunt: William Frederick, Dipl.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly.(London): Dept. of Arch.), 839 Great West Road, Isleworth, Middlesex. F. L. Hannam, T. H. B. Burrough, P. Morrey.

Jackson: Neil Ozanne, Dipl.Arch.(Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 11 Elm Park Road, Chelsea, S.W.3. T. E. Scott, C. G. Bath, S. F. Burley.

Kimberley: Alan Graham, Dipl.Arch(Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 15 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex. T. E. Scott, A. E. Miller, R. O. Foster.

Lewis: Stuart Randolph, A.A.Dipl.(Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Lewisbrook, Shurdington, nr. Cheltenham, Glos. Arthur Korn, M. H. Cooke-Yarborough, Anthony Cox.

Lister: Patrick Arthur, Dipl.Arch.(Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 'Agay', Ireton Avenue, Ashley Park, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey. A. H. Ley, A. L. Luke, F. H. Kerr.

Manousso: Paul, (Arch.Assoc.(London): Sch. of Arch.), 2 Frognal Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.3. E. M. Fry, D. L. Lasdun, C. K. Capon.

Milner: Charles Richard, Dipl.Arch.(Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 144 Gilbert Road, Cambridge. T. E. Scott, C. S. White, K. D. P. Murray.

Mitchell: Kenneth William Carmichael, Dipl.Arch(Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 11 Milton Crescent, Ilford, Essex. Frank Risdon, B. W. H. Scott, C. E. Westmoreland.

Morgan-Jones: David Tremayne, A.A.Dipl. (Arch.Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Stanley Lodge, St. Peter's Street, St. Albans, Herts. Arthur Korn, R. D. Hammett, C. A. R. Norton.

Nail: William, B.Arch(Dunelm) (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), Alderbury House, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Bruce Allsopp, F. Fielden.

Newman: John Alfred, Dipl.Arch.(Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 69 Newington Green Road, N.1. T. E. Scott, C. G. Bath, S. F. Burley.

Parker: Arnold Cecil, Dip.Arch.(Dunelm), (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 14 Seaton Crescent, Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, Northumberland. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Prof. J. S. Allen, F. Fielden.

Quennell: Nicholas William, (Arch.Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Caroline House, 11 The Mount, Hampstead, N.W.3. M. H. Cooke-Yarborough, Anthony Cox, M. Pattrick.

Rosenberg: Stephen Gabriel, A.A.Dipl. (Arch.Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 33 Doyle Gardens, N.W.10. Arthur Korn, A. R. F. Anderson, C. K. Capon.

Sellers: Stanley, Dip.Arch.(Birm.), (Birmingham Sch. of Arch.), 2 Hemlingford Road, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire. A. Douglas Jones, Arthur Ling, F. W. B. Charles.

Sharp: Dennis Charles, A.A.Dipl.(Arch. Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), 36 Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedford. Arthur Korn, S. V. Goodman, E. A. S. Houfe.

Stevens: Dennis William, Dipl.Arch.(Northern Polytechnic), (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), 105 Tottenhall Road, Palmers Green, N.13. T. E. Scott, S. F. Burley, C. G. Bath.

Watson: James Spence, B.Arch.(Dunelm), (King's Coll. (Univ. of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne, Sch. of Arch.), 19 Coquet Avenue, Whitley Bay, Northumberland. Prof. W. B. Edwards, Prof. J. S. Allen, J. H. Napper.

Wren: Murray James, (Passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the N.Z.I.A.), 23 Champion Hill, S.E.5. Prof. C. R. Knight, E. L. Gale, E. A. Day.

Young: Brian Miles de Lorentz, A.A.Dipl. (Arch.Assoc. (London): Sch. of Arch.), Sparkeswood, Rolvenden, Cranbrook, Kent. Arthur Korn, Brigadier Gerald Shenstone, G. G. Shenstone.

ELECTION: 10 MARCH 1959

An election of candidates for membership will take place on 10 March 1959. The names and addresses of the overseas candidates, with the names of their proposers, are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication respecting them must be sent to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., not later than Wednesday 25 February 1959.

The names following the applicant's address are those of his proposers.

AS FELLOW (1)

Lewis: John Newel, Dip.Arch.(The Polytechnic) [*A* 1945], Messrs. Mence and Moore, P.O. Box 588, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, The West Indies; 31 Cascade Road, Port-of-Spain. A. J. Prior, Richard Sheppard, F. R. S. Yorke.

AS ASSOCIATES (7)

The names of a school, or schools, after a candidate's name indicates the passing of a recognised course.

Galloway: Ronald Barker, Dip.Arch.(Auck. N.Z.) (passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the N.Z.I.A.), 76 Power Board Building, Queen Street, Auckland, C.I., New Zealand. Prof. C. R. Knight, Prof. A. C. Light and the President and Hon. Secretary of the N.Z.I.A. under Bye-law 3(*a*).

Ho: Pak Toe, B.Arch.(Melbourne) (passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), 81 Club Street, Singapore, 1, Malaya. Prof. B. B. Lewis, Mrs. Hilary Lewis, R. G. Parker.

Nwafor: Christian Ogbonnia, Dipl.Arch. (Northern Polytechnic) (Northern Poly. (London): Dept. of Arch.), Federal Public Works Department Headquarters, Lagos, Nigeria. T. E. Scott, C. G. Bath, S. F. Burley.

Oakley: Robert Edward Norman, B.Arch. (Auck.N.Z.) (passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the N.Z I.A.), 3rd Floor, Savoy Building, Moray Place, Dunedin, New Zealand. J. H. White and the President and Hon. Secretary of the N.Z.I.A. under Bye-law 3(*a*).

Oldreive: Noel Russell, (Final), c/o Messrs. Driver-Jowitt and Lincoln, P.O. Box 1007, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia. C. A. Knight, W. D. Cathcart, W. F. Hendry.

Townsend: Samuel Thomas, (passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the N.Z.I.A.), c/o Messrs. Haughton & Mair, P.O. Box 406 Wellington, N.Z. J. I. King, M. L. Winslade and the President and Hon. Secretary of the N.Z.I.A. under Bye-law 3(*a*).

Williams: Peter John, B.Arch.(Melbourne) (passed a qualifying Exam. approved by the R.A.I.A.), c/o Messrs. Hobbs, Winning and Leighton, 45 St. George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia. Prof. B. B. Lewis, W. T. Leighton, A. B. Winning.

Members' Column

This column is reserved for notices of changes of address, partnerships vacant or wanted, practices for sale or wanted, office accommodation, and personal notices other than of posts wanted as salaried assistants for which the Institute's Employment Register is maintained.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. P. A. Kennedy [*A*] has been appointed Chief Assistant (Architectural) to Greenwich Borough Council in succession to **Mr. C. W. Craske**, M.M. [*F*], who is retiring on 16 January 1959 after 34 years' service with the Borough.

Mr. Leslie V. Mitchell, M.T.P.I. [*A*], has been appointed Chief Town Planning Officer to the Northern Rhodesia Government as from 1 October 1958 and his address is now Town Planning Service, P.O. Box 69, Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia.

PRACTICES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Mr. P. E. Buttenshaw [*A*] and **Miss M. D. de Margry** [*A*] have entered into partnership under the style of **Associated Architects** at 21 Catholic Mission Street, Private Mail Bag No. 2242, Lagos, Nigeria.

Mr. James A. Crabtree [*A*] has become a partner in the firm of **Dyneley Luker and Moore** [*F*/*A*/*L*] at 1 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

The practice of the late **W. A. Kellett** [*L*], which in recent years has been carried on under the styles of **Kellett, Robson and Banks, Kellett and Robson,** and **Robson and Partner,** will in future be continued by **Mr. George Robson** [*F*] and **Mr. P. Michael W. Knowles** [*A*] under the style of **Robson and Knowles** at 11 Lendal, York, where they will be pleased to receive trade catalogues.

Messrs. Arthur W. Kenyon and Partners (Arthur W. Kenyon, C.B.E. [*F*], **P. B. Kenyon,** A.M.I.C.E., and **Matthys Tauté,** M.A. [*A*]) have changed the style of their firm to **Arthur Kenyon, Tauté and Partners.** Their address has also been changed to 140 Park Lane, London, W.1. (Mayfair 9603).

Mr. R. W. Lightfoot [*A*] has joined the firm of **Tooley and Foster (R. C. Foster,** M.B.E., M.C. [*F*], **Robert O. Foster,** J.P. [*F*], **H. D. Matthew,** M.B.E., M.C. [*F*], **Alan J. Power** [*F*]) of Midland Bank Chambers, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, as an Associate.

Messrs. Mence and Moore [*A*/*L*] of London and the West Indies, have opened a branch practice in Lagos, Nigeria, under the style of **Mence, Moore and Mort (West Africa)** with **Mr. Basil J. Mort** [*A*] as resident partner. The address is Private Mail Bag 2097, Lagos, Nigeria, where trade catalogues will be welcome.

Mr. James F. Munce [*A*], practising with **Mr. George R. Smail,** M.I.C.E., as **Munce and Kennedy** at 133 University Street, Belfast, has taken **Mr. L. A. Roche** [*A*] and **Mr. W. J. McDowell,** A.M.I.C.E., into associateship.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Mr. B. G. Andrews [*A*] has changed his address to 21 Bisley Road, Cheltenham (Cheltenham 54878), where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

Mr. D. S. Atkinson [*A*] has changed his address to The Old Vicarage, London Road, Widley, Portsmouth, Hants.

Mr. Thomas J. Austin [*A*] has changed his address to c/o The Department of Public Works, Treasury Building, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Mr. Charles D. Carus-Wilson, M.C. [*F*], has changed his address to 4 Haresfield Court, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

Mr. Michael Edmonds [*A*] has changed his address to Courtyard House, Chelsfield Village, Farnborough, Kent, where latest information on glass, tile, mosaic, decorative finishes would be welcome.

Mr. J. B. Jackson [*A*] has changed his address to 18 Limes Close, Matlock, Derbyshire.

Mr. Wyn Jones [*A*] has returned to this country from Baghdad, Iraq, and his address is now c/o Department of Civic Design, University of Liverpool, 76 Bedford Street South, Liverpool 7, Lancs.

Mr. Michael Laird [*A*] has resigned his teaching appointment and will in future devote all his time to private practice from his new address, 65 Castle Street, Edinburgh (Caledonian 5859).

Mr. Roy Latham [*A*] has changed his address to 7 Highfield, Harlow, Essex.

Mr. D. A. W. Lovejoy [*A*] and **Messrs. P. and D. T. Myers** [*AA*] have opened a joint branch office at 1 Wellesley Parade, Caterham, Surrey (Upper Warlingham 3351), where, as architects, town planning consultants and landscape architects, they will be pleased to receive relevant trade catalogues, etc.

Mr. Bernard Lowe [*L*] has changed his address to 8 Queen Square, Bristol 1.

Mr. C. L. Mawson [*A*] has changed his office address from 25 to 7 Finkle Street, Kendal, Westmorland, and his private address is now 'The Pines', Sandside, near Milnthorpe, Westmorland (Milnthorpe 3237).

Mr. Dan J. Middlebrook [*A*] is now practising from 2119 East Prince Road, Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A.

Mr. Derek Phillips [*A*] has changed his address to No. 1 Bovingdon Green, Herts, where he will continue to practise as an architect and consultant to architects and the lighting industry.

Mr. Leslie R. G. Preston [*A*] and **Mrs. Mary M. Preston** [*A*] have changed their address to Lanterns House, Queen's Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight.

Mr. David Roberts [*A* 17983] has changed his address to c/o Buildings Ordinance Office, P.W.D., Central Government Offices, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong.

Mr. W. E. Scott [*A*] has changed his address to 'Knightsbridge', Golden Smithies Lane, Wath upon Dearne, near Rotherham, Yorks.

Messrs. Skipper and Corless (Edward J. G. Skipper [*A*] and **R. B. Corless** [*A*]) of 17 Cathedral Street, Norwich, have opened an office at 32 Princes Street, Ipswich (Ipswich 51799).

Messrs. Venables, Williams and Ball (C. Liddell Williams [*A*] and **Gordon A. Ball** [*A*]) have changed their address to 14 Moody Street, Congleton, Cheshire (Congleton 2003).

Mr. R. W. Winter [*A*] has changed his address to Seechem Farm, Alvechurch, near Birmingham.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Liverpool School of Architecture is building up a collection of trade catalogues and will be pleased to receive these from manufacturers. They should be addressed to Dr. Quentin Hughes [*A*], Liverpool School of Architecture, The University, Abercromby Square, Liverpool 7.

PRACTICES AND PARTNERSHIPS WANTED AND AVAILABLE

Associate, Dipl.Arch. (41), in responsible position, requires partnership or post leading shortly to partnership. Capital available. Box 113, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate (35), with eight years in London practice, including three years as principal, seeks partnership or senior appointment where all-round experience and energy would be of value. Capital available. Further details from Box 114, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate, experienced in office and flat development, seeks a responsible post with a view to partnership in London. Capital available. Box 115, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Associate (44), with office in Central London, was obliged to seriously curtail staff and expenses due to recession and now with improving prospects wishes to associate or amalgamate with others in London or provinces to ensure maximum efficiency. Would consider joining an existing partnership or taking over from a member wishing to retire. Box 120, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

FOR SALE

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Member wishes to let office suite in Chesterfield, suitable young practitioner. Partly furnished if desired. Box 117, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

Member (32) wishes to share his ground floor office in a Chelsea square with another architect. Box 118, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

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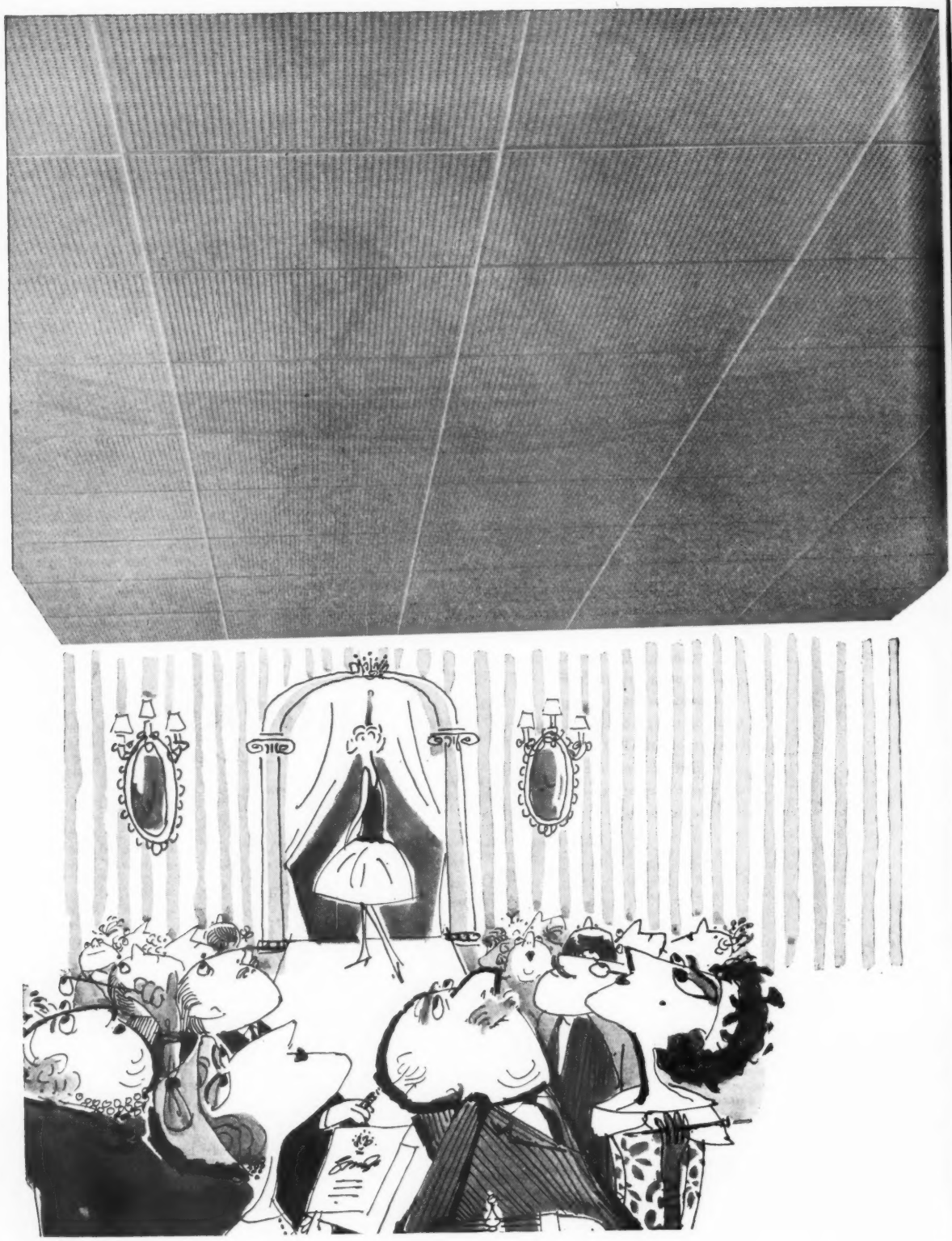

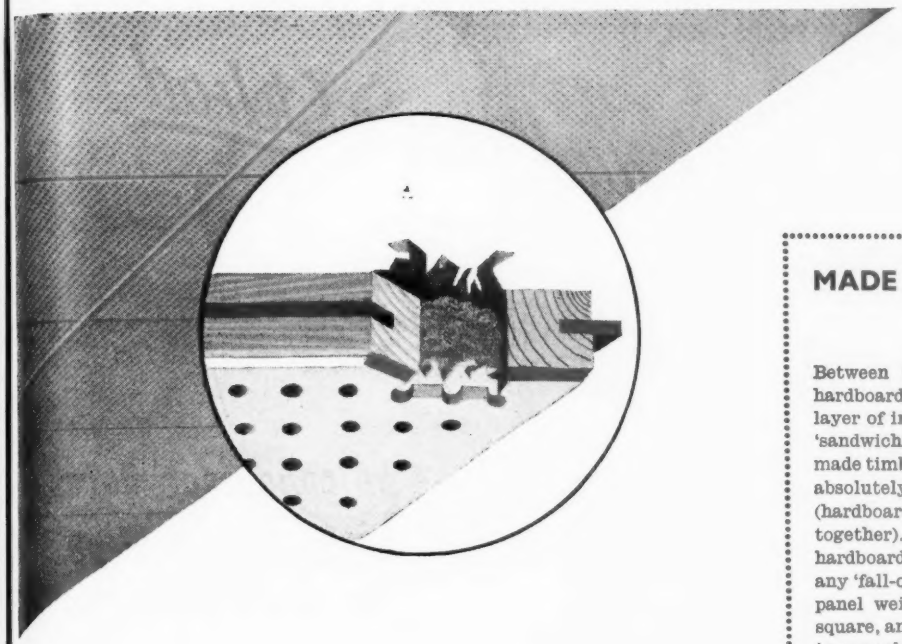

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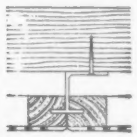

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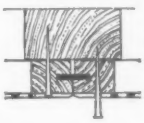

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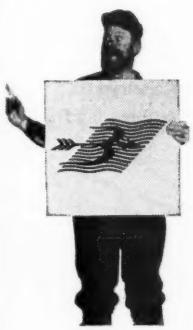

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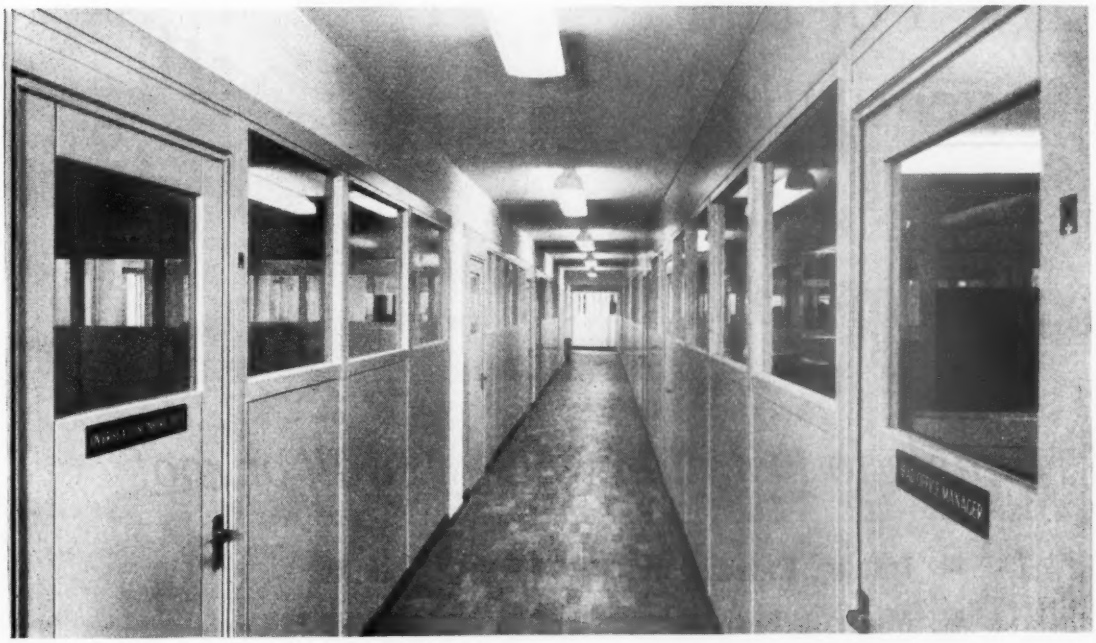

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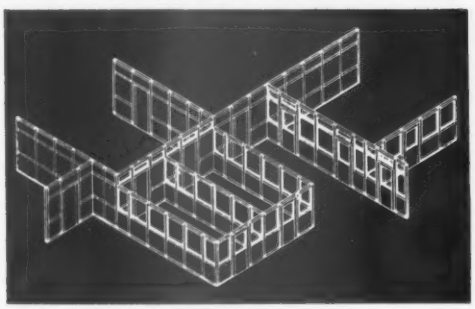

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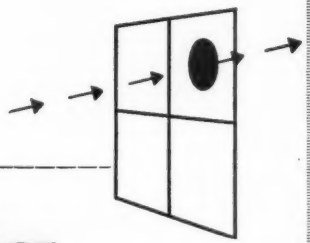

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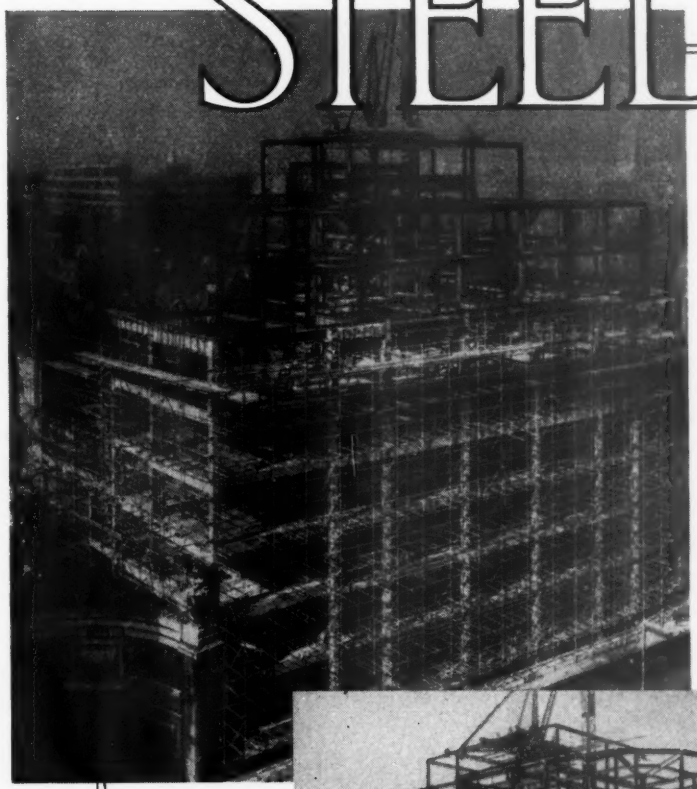

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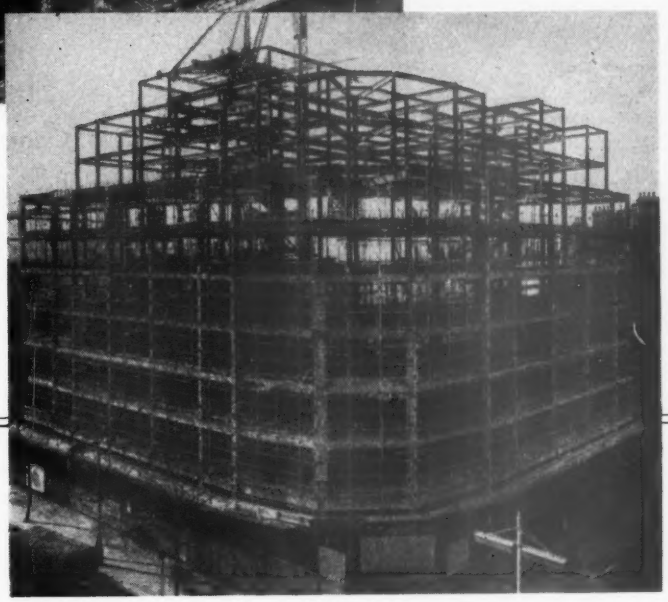

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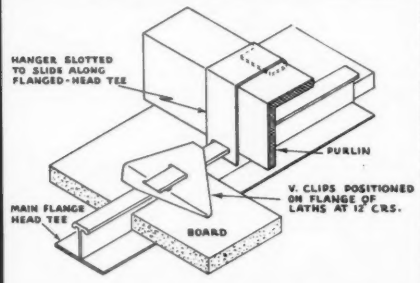
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MAIN FLANGE HEAD TEE
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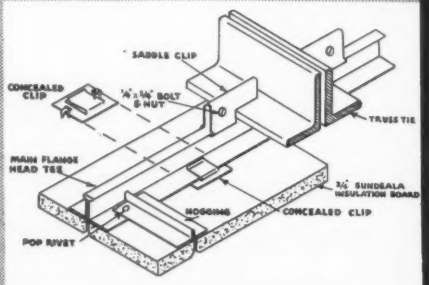
V Clip method for securing boards, showing suspension from Angle Purlin



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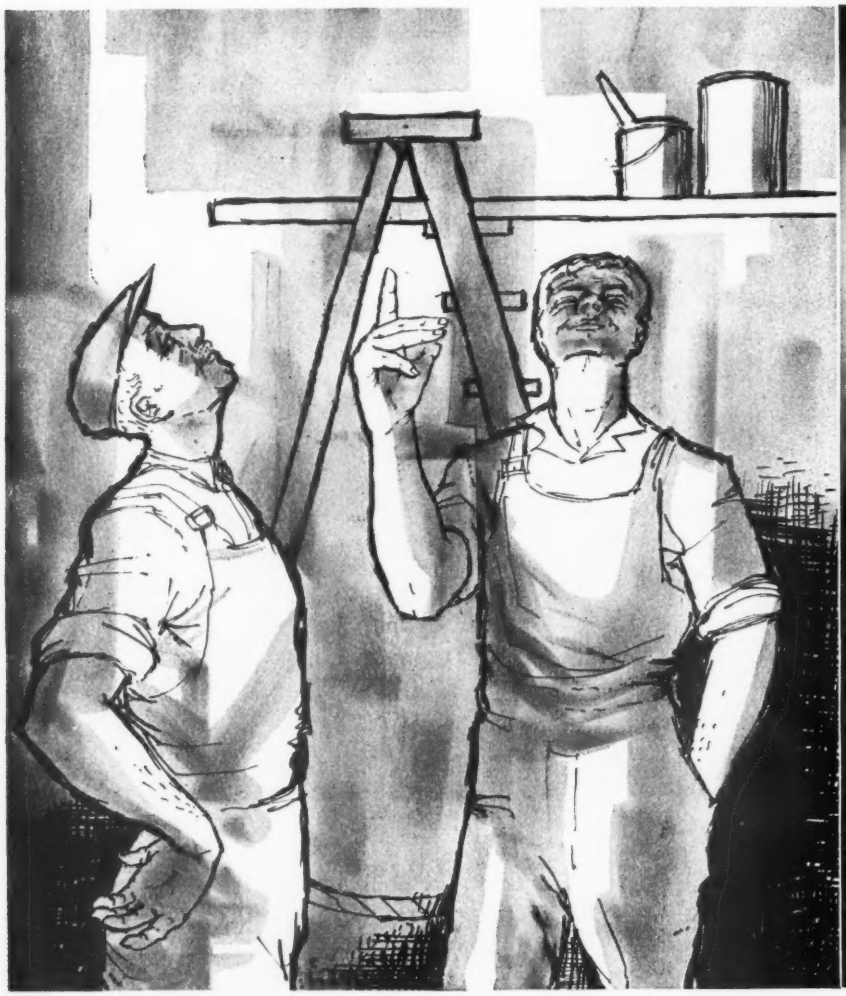

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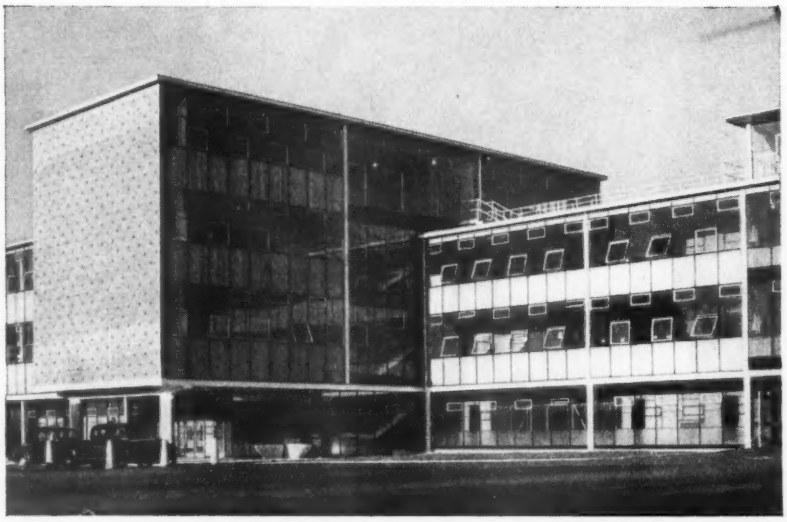

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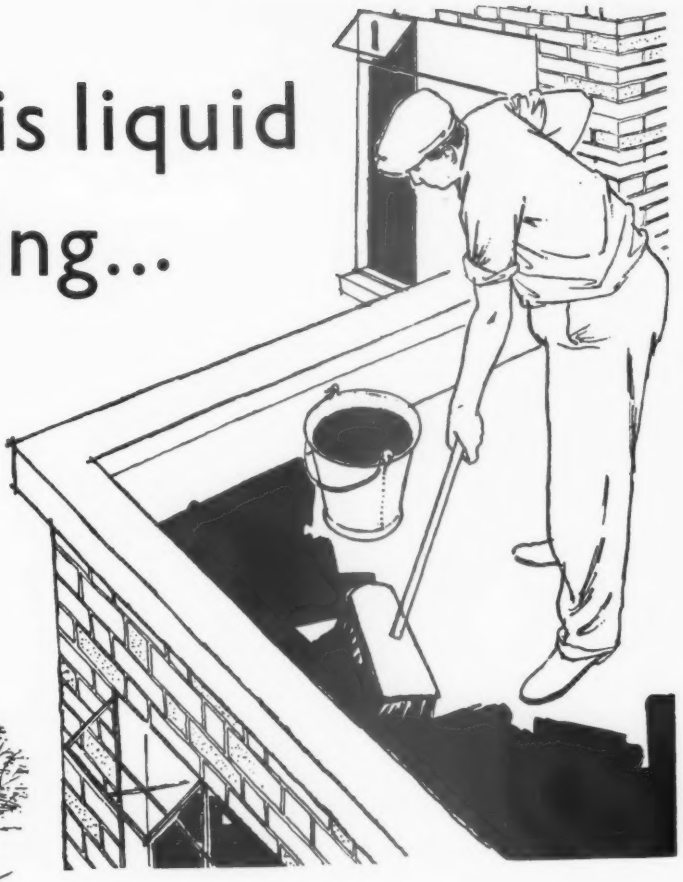

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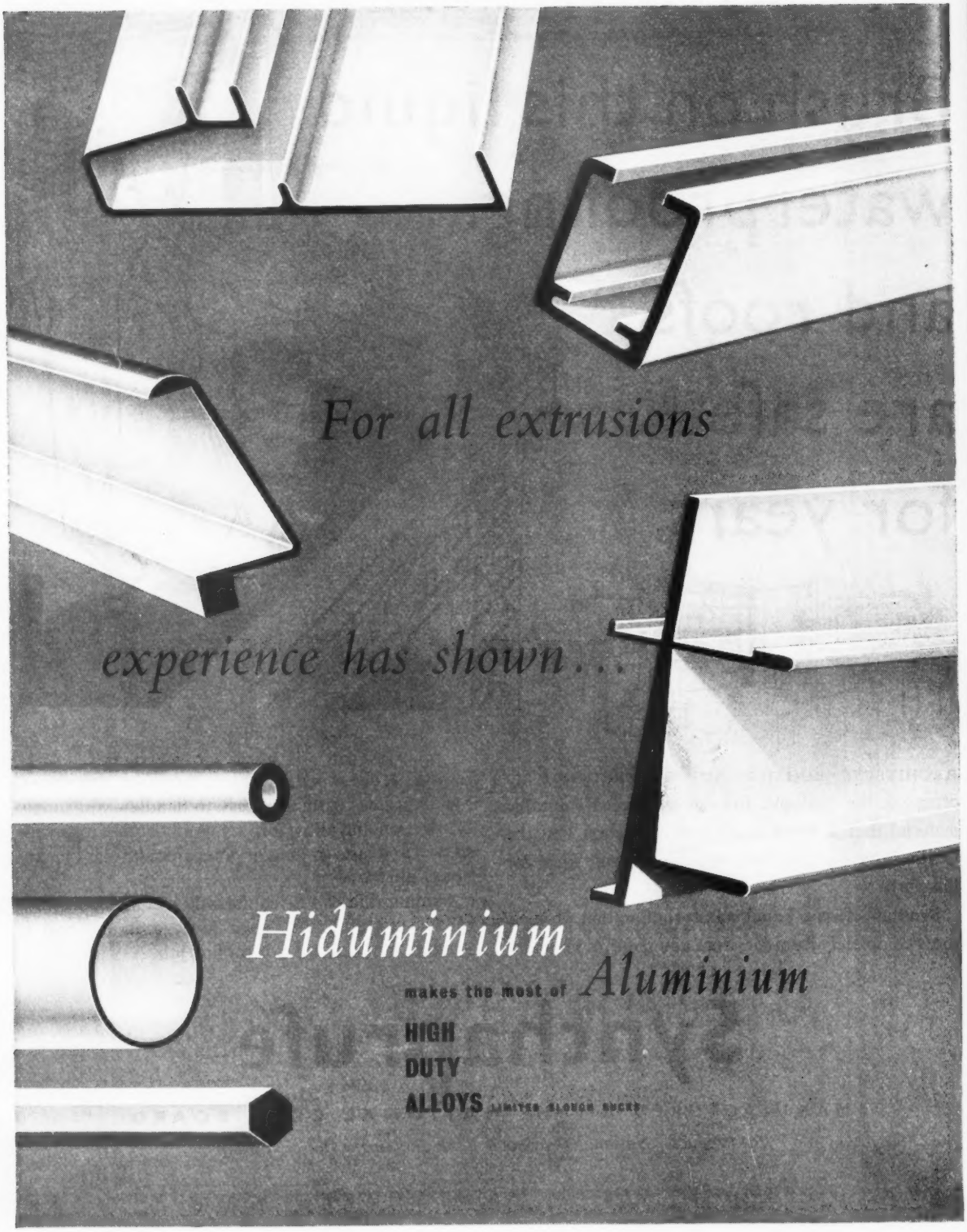
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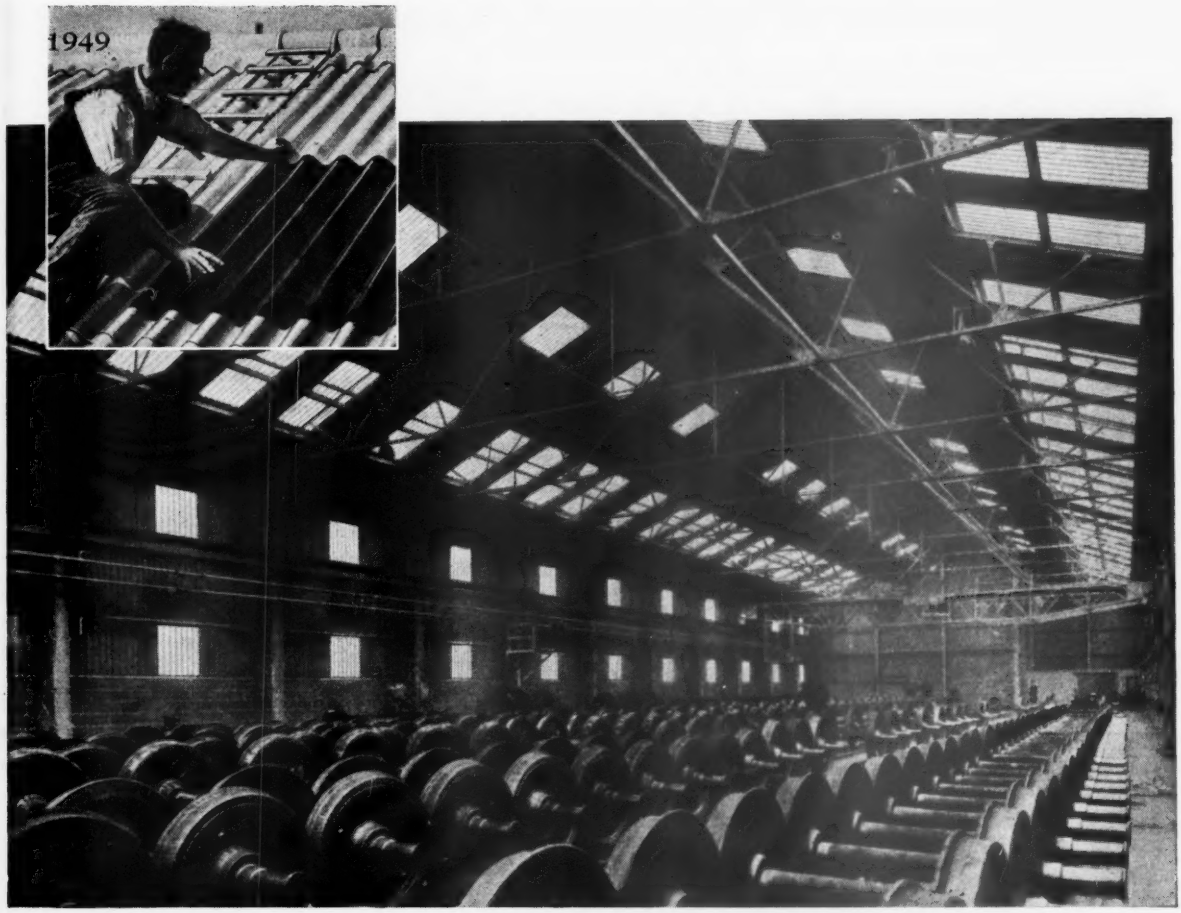

An interior view of the Corrugated 'Perspex' roof lighting in the factory of Owen & Dyson Ltd., Rotherham. It has been installed over 8 years.

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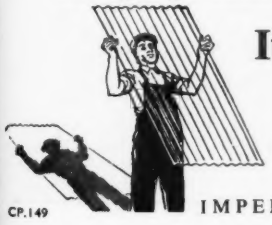

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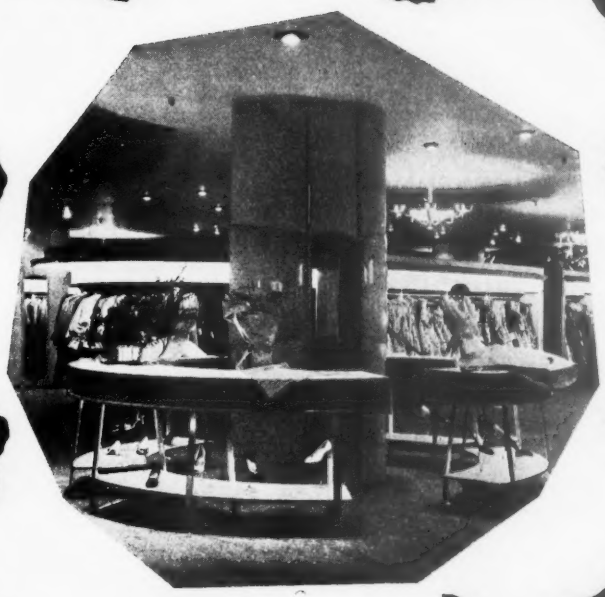

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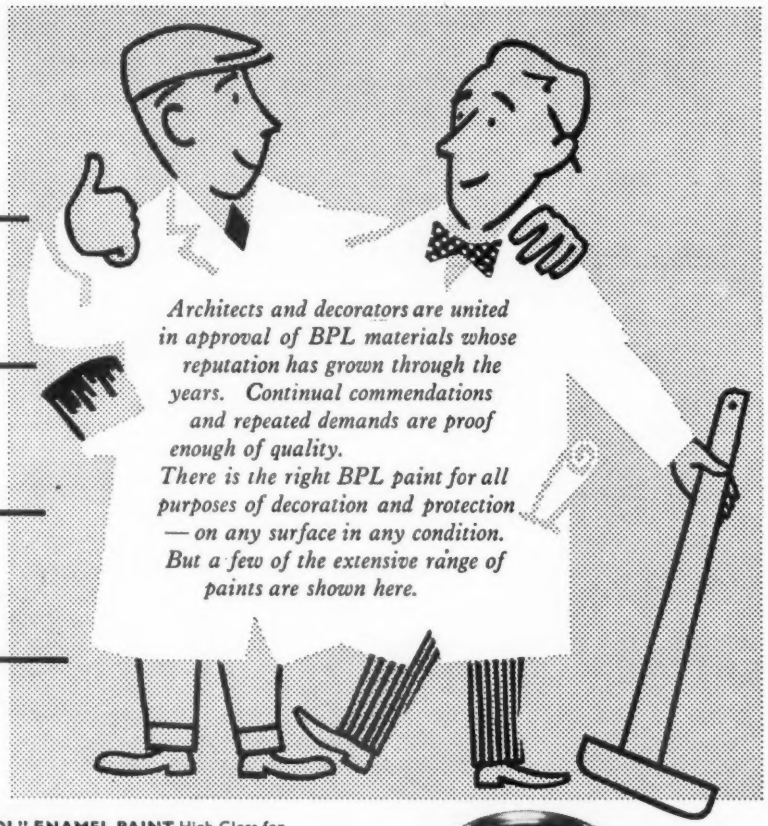

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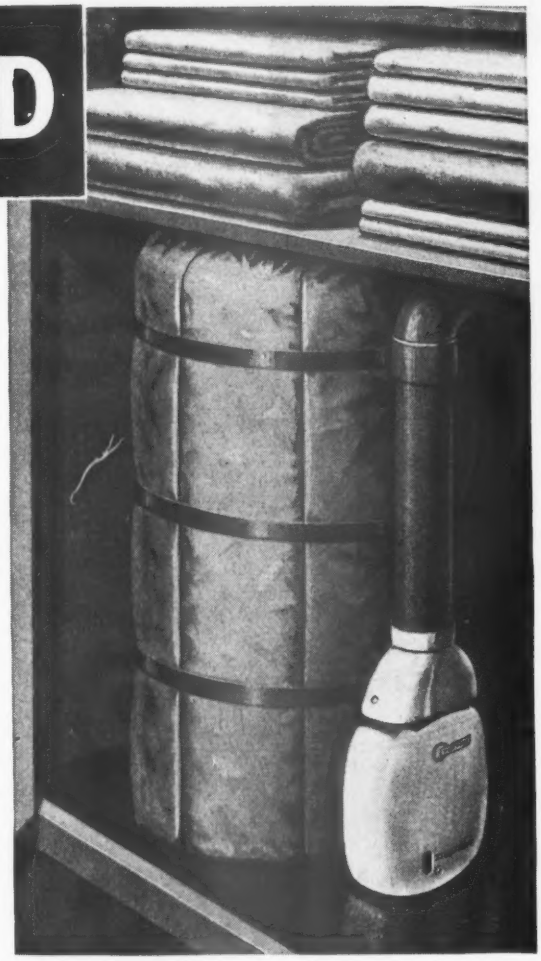

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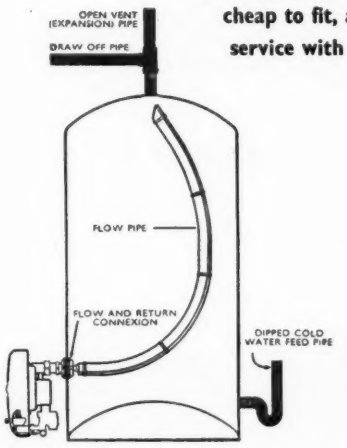

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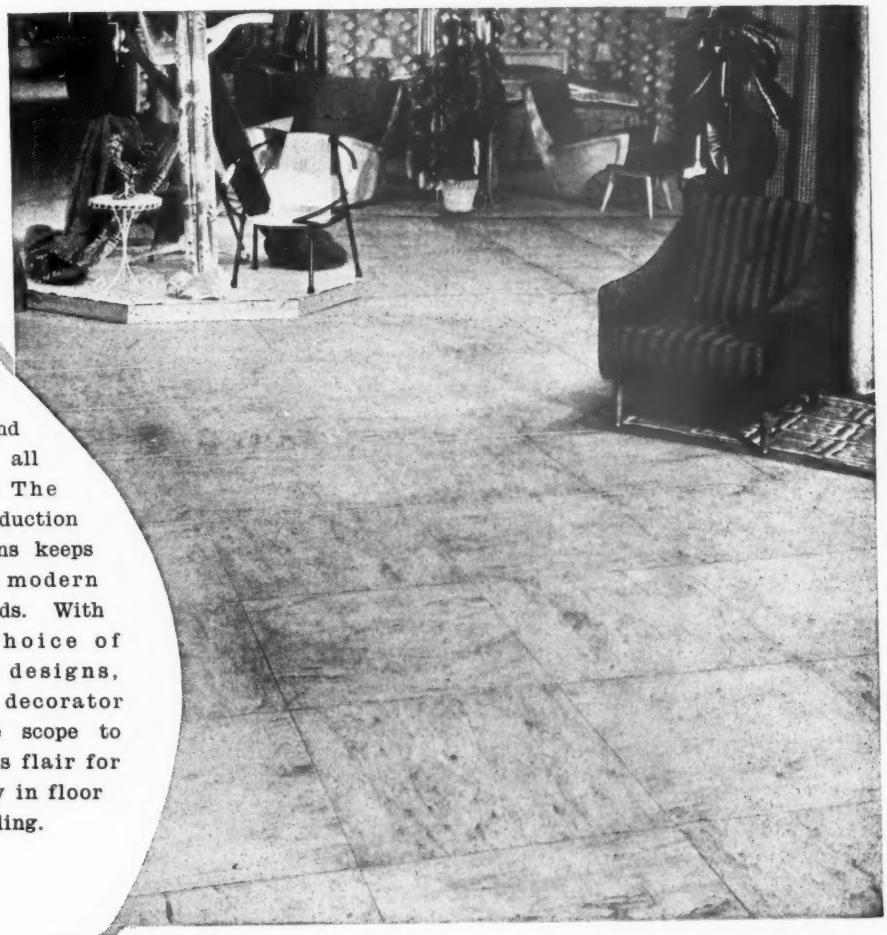

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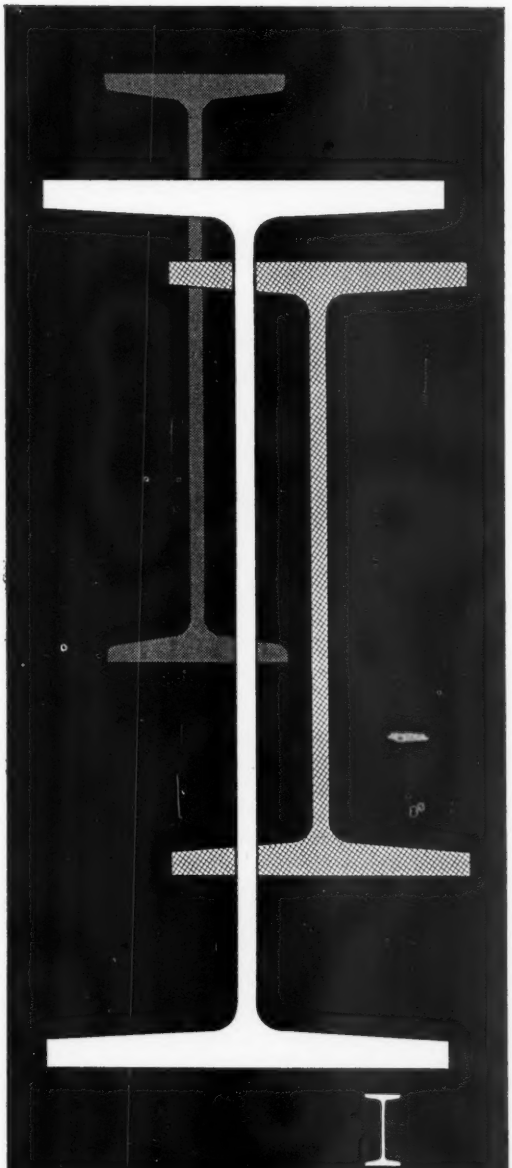

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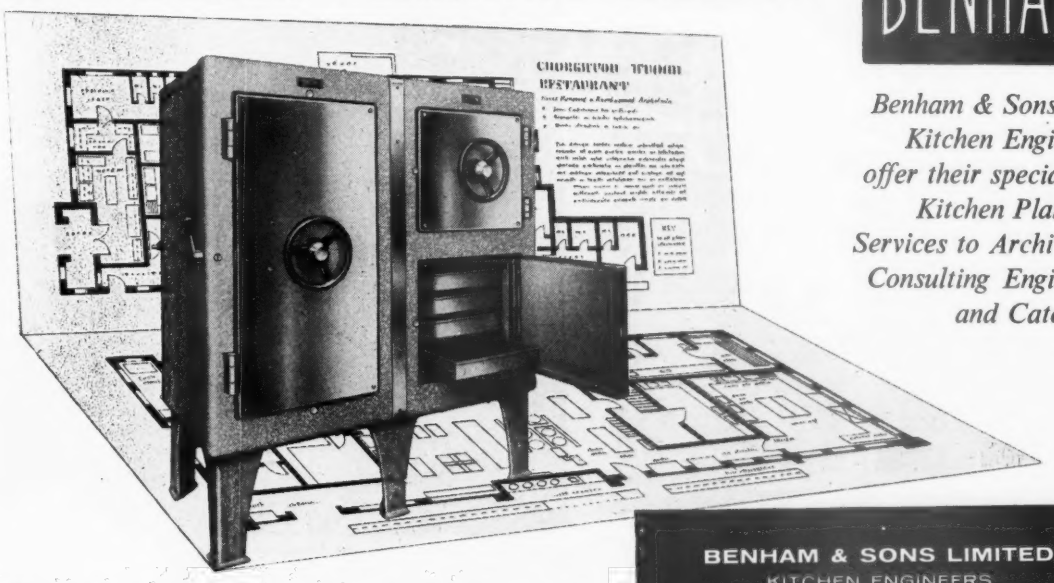

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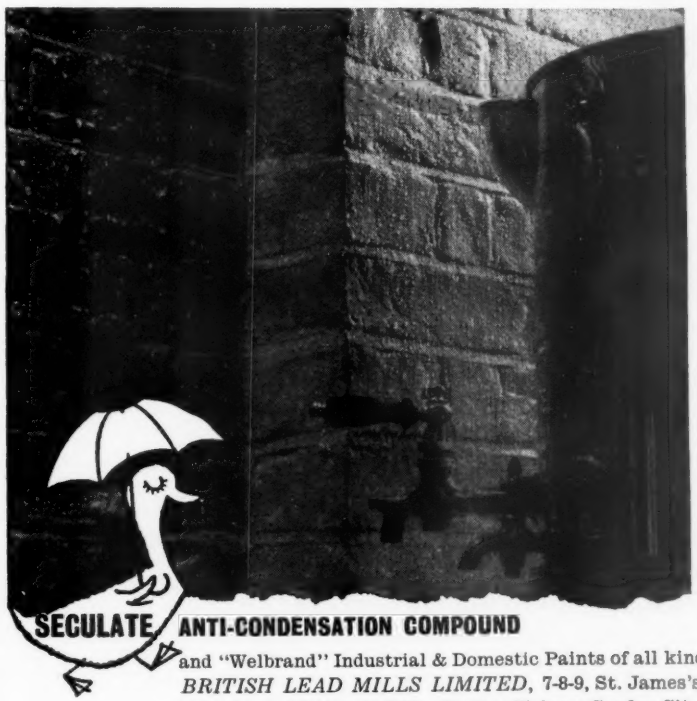

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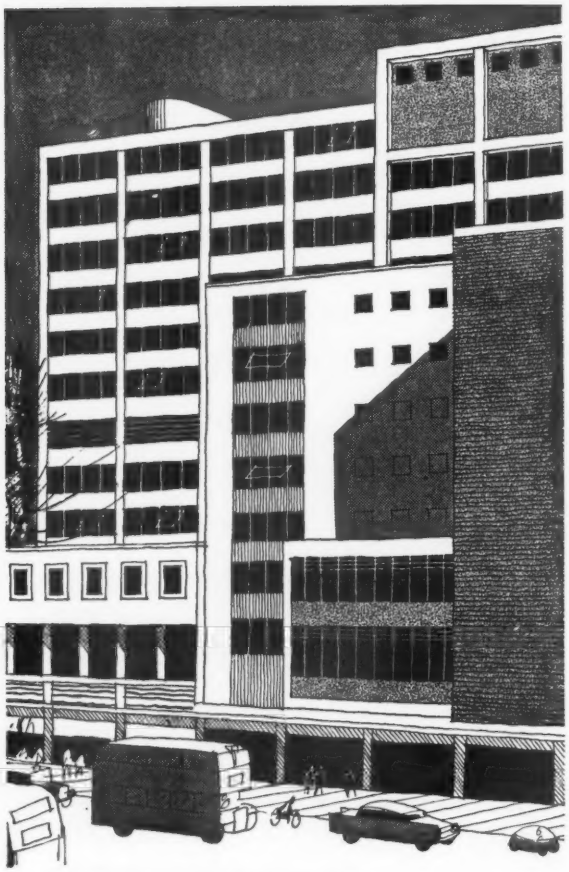

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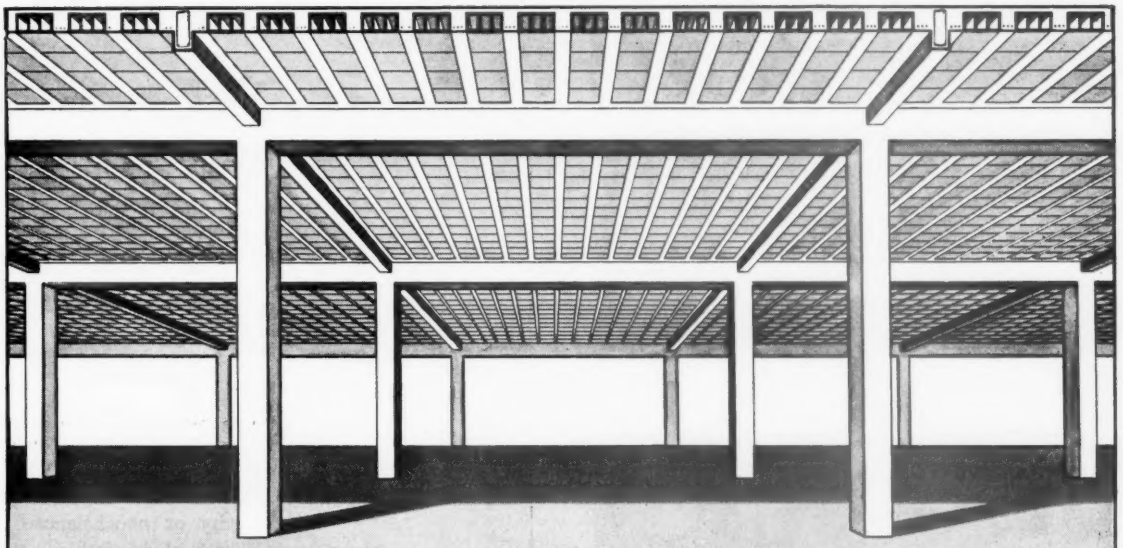

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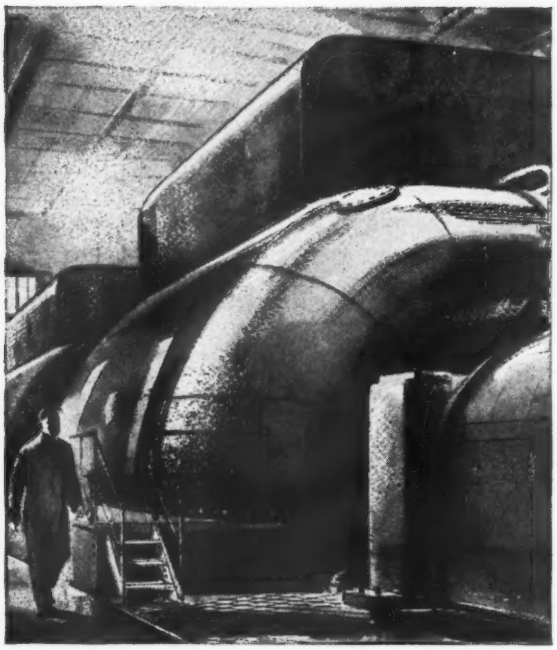

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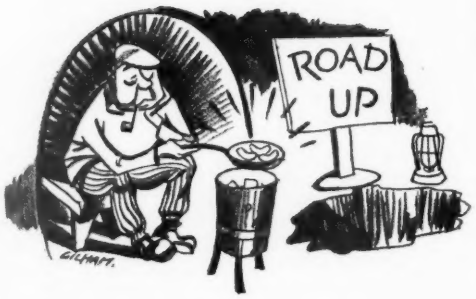

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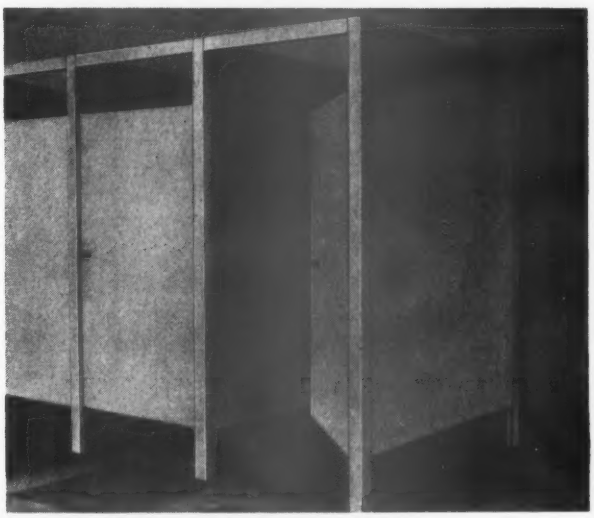

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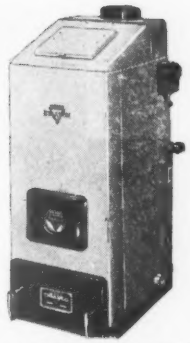

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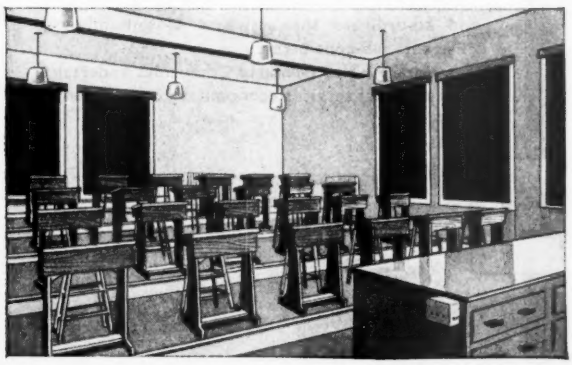

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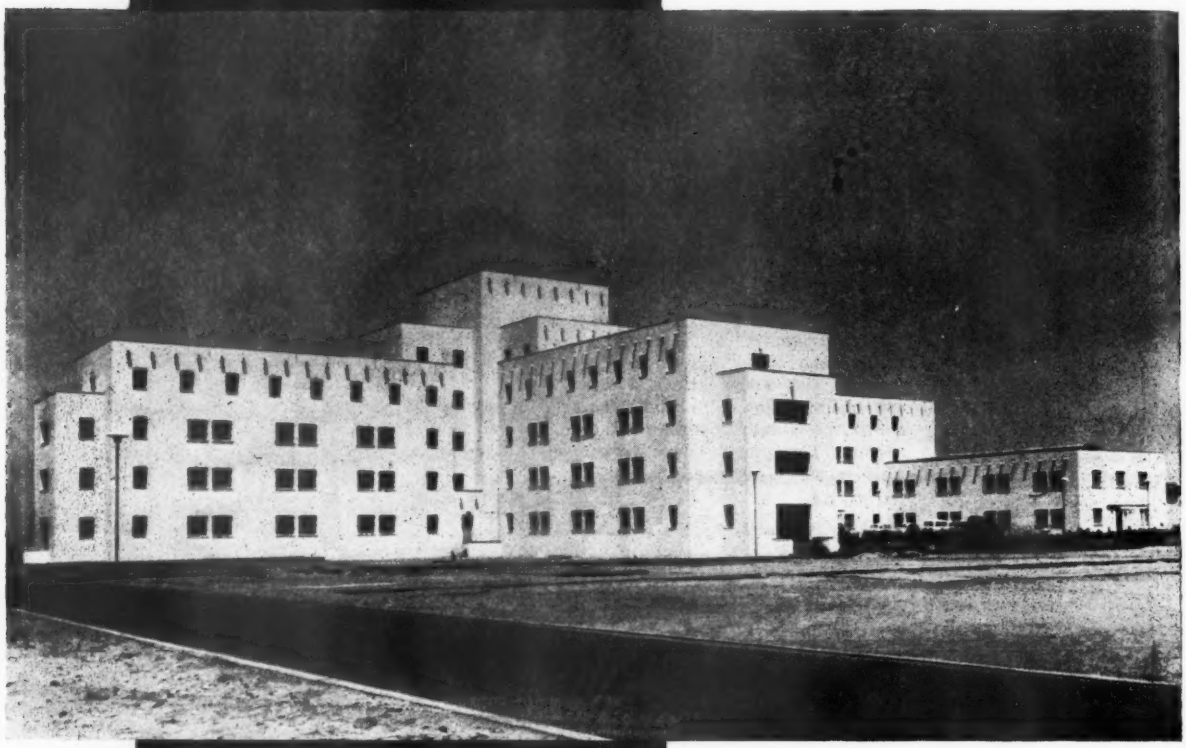

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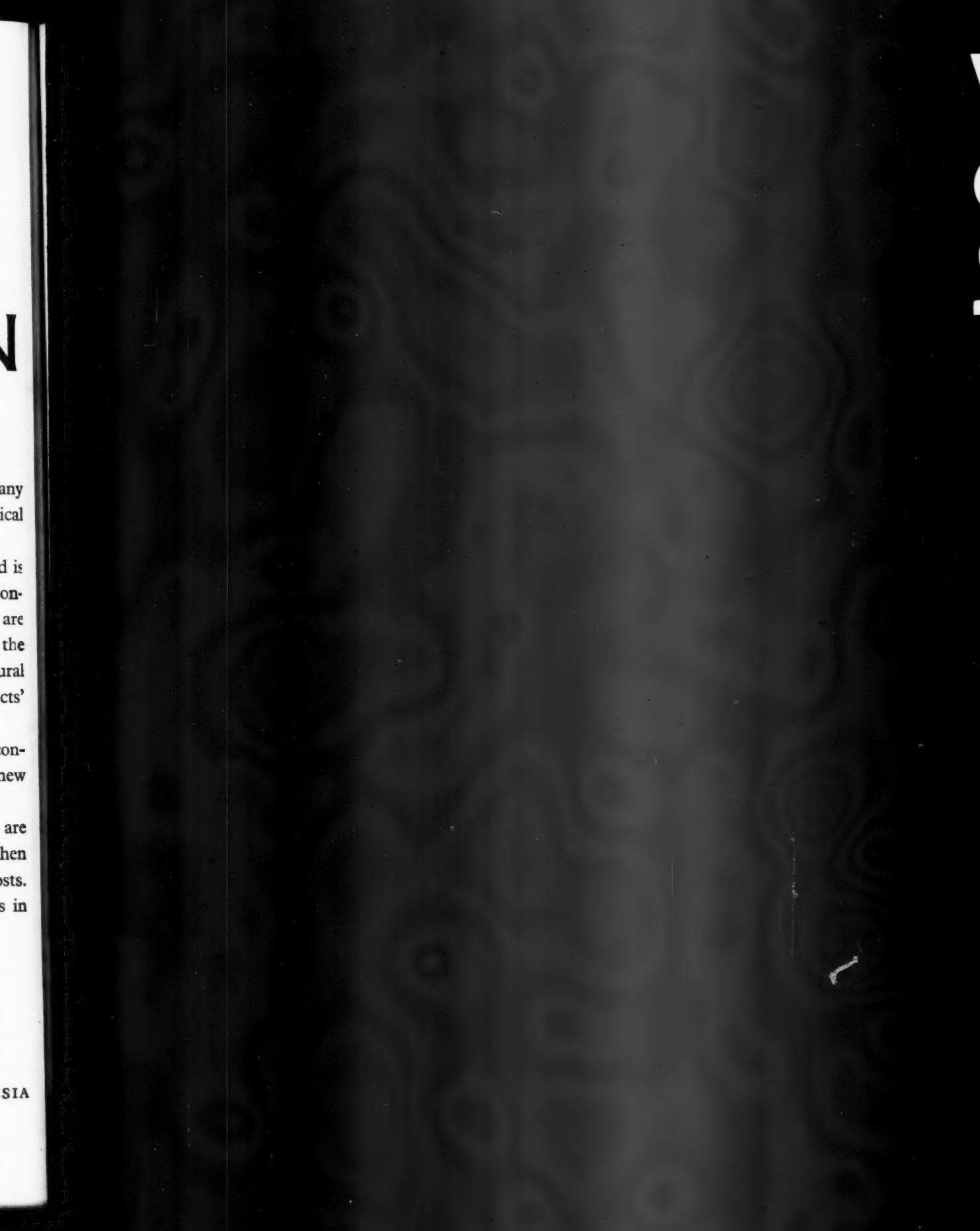


BUILDING RESEARCH STATION DIGEST 117

December 1958

Condensation and the Design of Factory Roofs

THIS Digest draws upon recent work at the Building Research Station to discuss the troublesome aspects of condensation in factory roofs in conditions of high humidities and to suggest how risks can be lessened or avoided in different kinds of roof construction. It is stressed that improving insulation does not necessarily reduce condensation risks; much depends on how or where the improvement is applied.

Slight condensation persisting only for short periods, such as may occur in a normally ventilated factory, housing dry processes, is often accepted as unavoidable in cold weather. Some industrial processes, however, require high humidities and temperatures, and some release large quantities of steam. In these circumstances the potential risk of condensation is high and its effects may be very damaging. The risk is greatest when the relative humidity and temperature of the internal air remain above 60 per cent and 65° F respectively for long periods—a condition that may occur where any of the following processes are carried on: baking, brewing, canning, confectionary, cooking, distilling, dyeing, laundering, paper making, pickling, plating, pottery, printing, textile proofing, spinning, tanning, weaving and tobacco processing. The normal processes in works kitchens and bath houses are common to many industries and can be added to the list.

Control of condensation in such circumstances demands special provision in design—particularly in the design of roofs, since these are the parts of the building structure most severely exposed. Because of the seasonal and daily variation in the conditions inside and outside buildings, it is not possible to lay down hard and fast standards for any building that will be effective at all times. Moreover, a minor difference between nominally similar constructions may have significant effects on the extent of condensation. The precautions described in this Digest may, however, be expected to avoid most of the trouble from condensation.

Methods of controlling condensation

For any given moisture content of the air within a building there is a corresponding dew-point temperature. If the temperature of an impermeable surface in contact with the air is above the dew point, condensation will not occur; if its temperature is below the dew point, condensation will occur. Condensation may also occur within the thickness of a permeable material if at some plane the temperature is below the dew point. Thus condensation can be avoided by keeping the temperature of surfaces above that of the dew point or by preventing moisture in the internal air from reaching colder regions of the structure below dew-point temperature; or by diluting warm moist air with dryer air by ventilation, thus in effect lowering the dew point. In humid climates the last method may not be practicable.

An alternative method of control is to use absorbent surface finishes. These may not

stop condensation but, if it occurs, they absorb the condensed water until conditions change and allow it to dry out. The success of this method, either as a cure or as a palliative, depends on the drying periods being long enough and the periods of condensation short enough to avoid complete saturation of the absorbent material, and on the conditions of ventilation in the building. Treatments of this kind vary in their effectiveness but in suitable conditions, as discussed later, some can retain their efficiency during long periods of condensation.

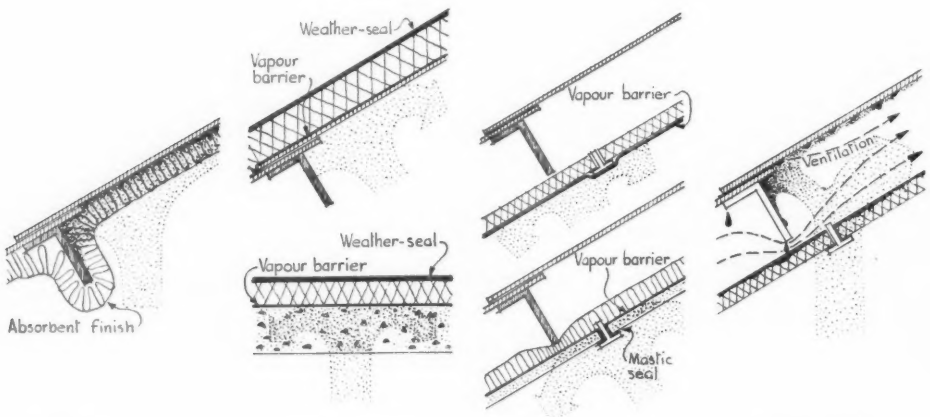
The application of these principles are considered now in relation to various types of roof commonly used in buildings.

Single-layer roofs

Because of their high conductance and low thermal capacity the inner surface temperature of thin sheetings (e.g. corrugated metal or asbestos cement) follows closely variations in external conditions; on cold, clear nights the temperature may fall even below that of the external air, but exposure to sunshine quickly raises the temperature to above air temperature. Condensation may therefore be intermittent, a condition that offers scope for absorbent surface finishes. Two kinds of treatment are commonly used: 'anti-condensation' paints applied by brush, and low-density sprayed finishes of asbestos fibre or other lightweight minerals. The thickness of a paint treatment and hence its capacity to absorb moisture is limited and paint treatments may not therefore be capable of absorbing moisture throughout a long period of condensation (perhaps lasting for days in cold weather); once they are saturated, continuing condensation will lead to dripping. On the other hand, sprayed fibre treatments one inch thick have been found to be continuously effective when air conditions of 75% relative humidity and 65° F persist for 24 hours a day provided there is some movement of air over the surface; where condensation occurs periodically during the day and the interior of the building is well ventilated the treatment will be effective in relative humidities higher than 75% at 65° F.

Multi-layer roofs

In an existing single-layer roof, condensation can be prevented either by covering the cladding externally with an insulating layer and a new weatherproof finish or by adding an internal insulated lining, the insulation in each case being sealed to prevent water vapour from the interior reaching the outer skin. In new building, the roof may be designed at the outset as a double-layer construction, i.e. a roof cladding with insulation below, making



Absorbent finish — *Insulation above the structure* — *Sealing the lining* — *Ventilating the cavity*

use of the principles of ensuring an inner surface above dew-point temperature and of reducing the amount of warm, moist air reaching the cold outer skin by sealing the inner lining.

The typical roof of this type consists of an outer corrugated sheeting with a lining of building board, acting as insulation itself or providing support for insulation laid on it, supported below or above the purlins. There are several proprietary systems of this kind. The cavity between the sheetings adds to the insulation, but it is necessary to restrict moisture passing into this cavity from inside the building; otherwise it will condense on the cold outer cladding and may in time drip back on to the lining and insulation. It is therefore important to seal the lining and its joints as effectively as possible against passage of moisture, i.e. to provide a vapour barrier. Materials such as fibre board and plasterboard are not sufficiently impermeable for this purpose; enough vapour can diffuse through the joints or through the material to cause trouble. Materials that are sufficiently impermeable include:

High gloss paint.
Sprayed p.v.c. film.
Metal foil, e.g. on insulating plasterboard.
Coated bitumen felts.
Polythene, "Melinex" and p.v.c. sheet.
Pitch or bitumen.

The joints between vapour barriers of sheet materials should be well lapped and bonded; the sprayed plastic film treatment has the advantage that it can bridge the gaps between boards at their supporting members. Painting necessitates separate attention to joints. The boards should preferably be sealed to their supporting members with an adhesive or sealing compound or tape.

Position of vapour barrier

Because the vapour barrier is in contact with the warm moist air, its inner surface must be kept at a temperature above the dew point of the air, otherwise it will act as a condensing surface. The vapour barrier must therefore be on the warm side of the construction and sufficient insulation must be included above it to maintain its temperature above dew point in the worst weather conditions; for this purpose the air-to-air resistance across lining and insulation (and any air space between them) should not be less than 3.*

The insulation may be provided by the lining itself or, if the lining is not sufficient, by additional material placed above it, e.g. fibreglass on asbestos-cement or plasterboard sheeting. If insulating plasterboard is fixed with the foil-covered face uppermost, as is usual, the foil is on the cold side and additional insulation must be used above it to ensure that its temperature is maintained above the dew-point. (Where advantage is to be taken of the reflective properties of the foil as well as its function as a vapour barrier, any additional insulation should be separated from it by an air space.)

Ventilation of the cavity

In ordinary construction, gaps at eaves and ridge and joints between the roof sheeting allow some ventilation of the space below the outer covering. This fortuitous ventilation can do little to arrest condensation at night, when the external air is itself at, or close to, saturation but at other times, when the temperature of the outside air rises and its humidity falls, ventilation can help to reduce the rate of condensation by removing moist air that reaches the cavity. It cannot be relied on in the absence of a vapour barrier when conditions in a building are continuously moist and warm but, if the lining is partially sealed, ventilation of the cavity helps to dry out, during the day, condensation deposited during a cold night. Where mild condensation has occurred in an existing structure, increased ventilation by open eaves and ridge ventilators may be sufficient to stop further trouble.

Other roof constructions

The weatherproof layers of asphalt or felt on concrete roofs act as vapour barriers on the cold side of the structure. Hence, if the underlying slab and insulating material is permeable, some condensation within its thickness may occur in winter. The remedy is to prevent moisture from entering the insulation by applying a vapour barrier at the roof soffit

* Expressed in h/B.t.u. ft² °F

or between the structural slab and the insulation above it. Sheet materials and applied coatings mentioned in the previous section could be used.

Condensation may introduce the added risk of rotting when building slabs of vegetable origin are used as insulation on concrete roofs or, in place of concrete, as both the structure and the insulation. Again, a vapour barrier is needed on the warm side of the insulation.

The many deck and "sandwich" constructions available for flat or pitched roofs are all modifications of the basic structures already described. Some combine a vapour-tight structure with an insulated roof covering and they are thus well equipped to avoid condensation; others, intrinsically less resistant, are lined with lapped sheeting so that they are to an extent self-draining in inclined positions.

(*Prepared at the Building Research Station, Garston, Herts.*)

Other Building Research Station publications dealing with the control of condensation.

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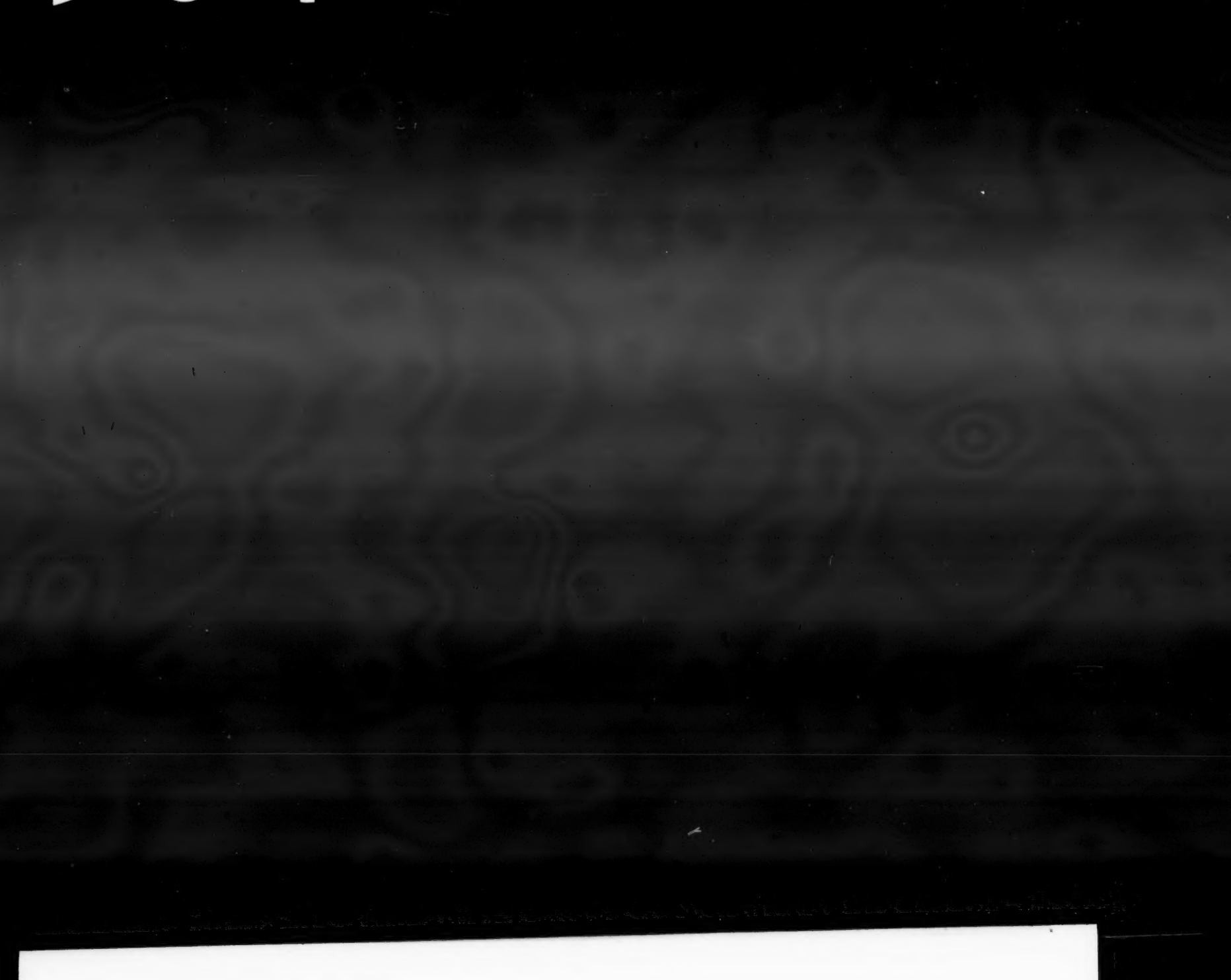
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